

# **The Shortcut to Heaven**

A Special Gift for the Seekers of  
Paradise

## **Preface by the Author**

Heaven is the lost treasure of man. Due to the false whispers of Satan, Hazrat Adam (AS) made a mistake; consequently, man was expelled from heaven and brought down to earth. The rule is that “everything returns to its origin”. So man should have longed to return to his original self and strive to regain an abode in paradise. But what happens is that the same Satan comes in between man and heaven; he again tries his utmost to stop man from reaching paradise. He leads man to such a deception that man forgets the everlasting heaven of the hereafter and tries to create a heaven within this world. This world is ephemeral and one day will leave man. Then man will possess nothing in his hand except the humiliation of the afterlife and eventually will have a permanent home in hell. But there are some wise men as well who are not a prey to Satan’s web; they make the Quranic injunctions as their beacon and reflect on the teachings of the holy prophet SWS; they live their lives in such a way that they earn heaven for themselves.

In the month of Ramadan (October 2008) in Zambia while in *itekaaf* (spiritual retreat), I was conducting the special gatherings for women during which I thought that I should teach them about those deeds that make the path to paradise easy so that they may become motivated to build a home in heaven. We have been taught many small as well as big deeds by the holy prophet SWS that make us worthy of heaven in the eyes of Allah SWT. These deeds are not that tough at all but due to ignorance we remain deprived of their blessings. And many people do good deeds but due to lack of correct intention lose their reward. Thus to focus the attention on these deeds, I started a sequence of lectures which, by the special Grace of Allah, proved to be extremely beneficial. Although these talks were directed at women but they are nevertheless equally fruitful for men alike. By compiling these lectures in the form of a book, the honorable Dr. Shahid Mehmood has rendered a great service. As a result, those people who were not present at those lectures can also benefit from this book. Wherever the message of religion reaches, it is good. May Allah SWT accept the efforts of Dr. Shahid and make it a source of virtue even after his death. May Allah SWT make all those affiliated with Faqeer Publications among His chosen servants. Ameen!

Faqeer Zulfiqar Ahmad Naqshbandi Mujaddadi

## Foreword by the Compiler

When man enters this world, the journey of his desires commences. Towards the fulfillment of desires, he progresses till he reaches the point where he considers himself a successful person. However, on the road of curiosity, whenever he reaches a destination, he wishes to go further than that. Thus, the destination assimilates the form of a mirage till man meets his death. In order to reach this imaginary destination, man takes innumerable measures, struggles beyond his capacity and wears many masks as well but he does not attain bliss.

A thousand desires exist such that I die for each one of them

Many of my wishes relinquished but still remain in abundance

It is not necessary that desires maybe of a bad nature; in fact, on the contrary, they may be good but whatever may be their disposition, there is no bliss in this world because it is not the abode for the fulfillment of desires – that is heaven; yes, that heaven about which the promise has been made for the true believers..... that heaven in which man who is labeled as prosperous will reach.....that heaven in which there is pleasure and ecstasy.....there is a special type of wine..... there are beautiful women....there are palaces and gardens....and above all, there is unveiling of the beauty of the True Friend. This is the place for the fulfillment of desires...that sort of fulfillment where as soon as a desire enters the heart, everything occurs accordingly at once without any painstaking efforts.

So if the criterion of success is heaven, then why are we drowned in the love of this world? Why are we aggrieved by the troubles of this world? Why don't we put in our efforts to acquire the heaven? We are so madly caught up in acquiring the luxuries of this world that we forget that the everlasting heaven is much easier to acquire. Only if we change our ideology, we can comprehend this reality but how does this change occur? It can only occur by the companionship of the true servants of Allah whose spiritual concentration changes the deep world inside our hearts....our wishes change....our priorities change. May Allah grant humans the company of and relation to the true servants of Allah SWT.

The Shaykh of Arabs and non-Arabs, the beloved of the Ulema, Hazrat Maulana Peer Hafiz Zulfiqar Ahmad Naqshbandi Mujadaddi DBA is a true mystic of the modern age whose method of teaching his disciples and followers is simple yet special. His special focus is on the inner transformation of human beings. In the month of Ramadan (October 2008) in Zambia while in *itekaaf* (spiritual retreat), he was conducting the special gatherings for women during which he tried to instill love for heaven among the listeners. Daily, he delivered a lecture and threw light on the various facets of life proving how comfortable was the path to heaven. To build a home in heaven is the need of every man. Thus keeping in view this urgent need, I compiled the lectures of Hazrat DBA in the form of a book. If readers pay attention to this book, they will acquire a substitute for the companionship of Hazrat DBA. May Allah SWT accept the efforts of this *faqeer*.

This humble servant of Allah is indebted to Hazrat Maulana Mufti Rizwan for playing an instrumental role in the production of this book as well as providing intellectual guidance. I am also grateful to Hazrat Haji Siddeeq due to which the work of publications is working efficiently. May Allah let the shadow of

Hazrat DBA be bestowed upon us due to whose blessings, we are able to work in the service of Islam.  
May Allah accept our imperfect contributions and make us earn His pleasure.

Seeker of prayers

Dr. Shahid Mehmood Naqshbandi

Servant of Hazrat Maulana Peer Hafiz Zulfiqar Ahmad Naqshbandi Mujadaddi DBA

## **Heaven – an abode for the meeting with the Real Beloved**

### **Preparation for the Departure of a Girl**

Whenever a girl is born in a family, it is understood by the members that she is a temporary member. Although she is brought up in her parent's home, she is considered to be an external part of the family. Thus along with the birth of a daughter, the parents start thinking about her next home; the mother undertakes her moral training as long as she is in her home. If she is granted formal education, it is with the purpose that she may be granted a respectable family in her next home...she is taught etiquettes, manners and different kinds of work...the main purpose is a respectable place in her next dwelling. Sometimes it is observed that a daughter is in the stage of playing with toys and yet her mother starts collecting her dowry. Later, the daughter herself realizes that there will come a time when she will leave this home and find a place in the permanent home...she knows that this is my parent's home whereas, after marriage, my next home will be my own. That is why a woman is known as "the one who belongs to home". Her heart's strongest desire is to have a house of her own....a small garden which she can embellish and in which she can live a peaceful life. This yearning lies in the heart of every young woman.

### **The two departures of a woman**

Hence, there are two occasions in the life of every woman that are very essential – they are known as departures.

#### **1. Departure of Marriage**

One departure is known as marriage. On the occasion of marriage, she is supposed to leave her house, family and relatives. It is even possible that due to marriage she may have to go to another country. On one hand, a woman experiences the grief of leaving her parent's home; on the other hand, she feels happy on the advent of her own home. This is known as woman's first departure.

#### **2. Departure of Death**

There is another departure as well as which is known as death. On this departure, a woman travels from this world to the next one.

### **Comparison of the two departures**

If you compare the two departures, you will draw the following conclusions:-

- In the first departure, a woman travels to her home while sitting in a carriage and in the second departure, a woman travels to the graveyard while lying in a coffin.
- In the first departure, few people are able to see the dowry. In the second departure, the entire humanity will see her good deeds on the Day of Judgment.
- In the first departure, on the first night, there is a flock of women around the bride whereas in the second departure, in the grave, she rests alone.

- In the first departure, the bride is sent to a beauty parlor where she is made to look pretty in different ways. However, for the second departure, she is made beautiful by going to religious *madressas* and gatherings...by following the injunctions of religion.
- In the first departure, a beautiful dress is prepared for her. In the second departure, the dress that is worn by her is known as the attire of *taqwa* (piety). It is mentioned in the Quran:  
"And the attire of piety is the best one" (Al-Iraaf)
- In the first departure, the separation from her parents is temporary; she knows that she will meet her parents afterwards but in the second departure, the separation from loved ones is conditional. If both have done good deeds, then they will be united once again in the house of heaven but if one of them has been led astray, then he has to find a place in hell.
- After the first departure, if she is not happy in her home, she consoles herself by thinking that if she practices patience under the hardships written in her fate, death would eventually end this suffering. However, after the second departure, if she does not earn a good home, she will end up in hell. Now there will be no death to end the torture inflicted on her. She will crave for death but it will be said to her (as mentioned in the Quran):  
"Today do not ask for one death but ask for many deaths" (Furqan)
- In the first departure, her parents prepare the dowry for her but for the second departure, she herself has to accumulate the relevant deeds

### **Preparation for the second departure**

Now consider that if for the first departure, she has to undergo such a thorough preparation, how much preparation is needed for the second departure. Therefore, her one home is for this world and one home is for the hereafter. If she amassed good deeds, her home will be heaven otherwise the contrary is true too.

Today, if a husband tells his wife that he will buy her a home but it will be totally deserted... there is no population, no electricity, no water and no other resources...there will be complete darkness at night...the danger of thieves and robbers also prevails. She would certainly say that she would never live in such a home at any cost whatever the circumstances are. However if he says that he will buy her a home in such a colony where every necessity is available, she will change her mind at once and will be ready to live there. In a similar way, there can be only 2 kinds of home for every woman. Virtue will lead to paradise whereas sins will lead to hell; if a woman ponders on these two ends, she would obviously desire the earlier and despise the later.

## **Prayer of Hazrat Asia (RA)**

Hazrat Asia (RA) was the wife of Pharaoh. She accepted the teachings of Prophet Musa (AS). Her husband humiliated and tortured her and eventually ousted her from his home. For a woman, there is no bigger punishment than being expelled from her home. As mentioned earlier, she is known as the one who belongs to home. If she is rendered homeless, it is the biggest grief in her life. When she was driven out, she uttered the following prayer:

“Oh my Lord, Build for me a home in your neighborhood in heaven”

Oh Allah, Pharaoh expelled me from his home because I accepted your religion. Now, in return, I desire that I have a place in your proximity in paradise. Allah SWT loved her prayer so much that He included it in His last Book. Thus Allah also wants that a woman should build a home in heaven.

## **Home of this world and home of the hereafter**

Thus the question arises in the mind that how do we make a home in heaven? In the last few years, during the lectures of *tarbiyah*, the question under consideration was that how does a woman live a happy life in the home of this world? However, this time, it occurred to me that I should explain something about the home of the hereafter so that the entire focus of women may not be only on the home of this world which is temporary. A religious elder used to say that:

“A person’s struggle for this world should be directly proportional to the amount of time spent in this world whereas the struggle for hereafter should be directly proportional to the amount of time spent in the hereafter”.

## **The comparison between the two homes**

- Worldly home is temporary whereas the hereafter is everlasting.
- Worldly home is made of bricks and sand whereas the next home is made of gold and silver
- In the worldly home, a woman has to do work herself whereas in the next home, all the work will be done by itself; there will be special servants for her to handle everything in the most efficient, thorough and quick manner.
- In the worldly home, due to shortage of belongings, she cannot decorate her home exactly as she wishes whereas in the next home, there will be no shortage of anything; a woman would adorn her home exactly as she wishes.

- In the worldly home, the partnership with husband and children is temporary whereas in the next home this beautiful partnership will last forever.
- In the worldly home, aging of a woman takes place due to which her beauty gradually diminishes. In the next home, her age will be 18 forever and her beauty will continue to increase in quality.
- In the worldly home, if a woman prepares a dress, she has to wash it again and again. In the next home, whenever she would change her clothes, she would be granted a new dress.
- In the worldly home, a woman always fears the discontent of her husband; in the next home, she would know that Allah SWT will always be happy with her.

### **How does one earn a home in heaven?**

During these lectures in *Ramzan*, our concentration will be on the type of deeds that we should do to earn a home in heaven in the easiest manner. Thus it is requested that ladies should listen with the ears of their hearts and try their best to adopt the deeds recommended by me.

The *Nafs* (lower-self) in man urges human beings to live a life of personal whims whereas one earns a home in heaven by living an entirely different kind of life. It is not that by doing few deeds, praying 5 times a day, we start thinking that we have earned a home in heaven. Perhaps an example would elucidate the matter. If a mouse has turmeric on its tail, it would be foolish for the mouse to consider itself as a *pansaari* (the one who possesses spices). Therefore, only praying 5 times a day is not enough to enter heaven; the whole life has to be molded according to the pleasure of Allah SWT.

### **Heaven....the meeting abode of the Beloved**

After all, what is heaven? The abode for man's meeting with the Beloved. The common understanding is that there will be food, servants and pleasures etc in heaven. Yes indeed this is also part of the package but there is one more special thing in heaven for which a true believer really longs for and i.e "the unveiling of Allah SWT".

It is observed in the world that if a man gets married with the person he wishes for, he decorates his home especially that room in which the bride is going to come. Flowers are brought, the room is scented and many other ways are adopted to beautify everything. Similarly, Allah SWT decorates the meeting abode with the true believers in such a way that it is said in a hadith that:

“No eye has ever seen; no ear has ever heard; no thought has ever crossed a heart” (Sahih Bukhari).

How beautiful would that place be about which we cannot even imagine. In this world, every human being decorates his/her home according to his/her capacity. Allah SWT is the King of all worlds and owner of all treasures; His capacity is Infinite. Thus we cannot form any description or image in our head about the place designed by Him.

### **Meeting is Remembered**

It has been observed that a woman always remembers her first wedding night after her departure; she also remembers the home she adopts after departure. Allah SWT also likes the meeting abode with the true believers. That is why after Allah met Hazrat Musa (AS) at the mountain of *Toor*, He swore by *Toor* in the holy Quran (Surah Toor):

“By the (mountain) *Toor*”

It seems strange to swear by a mountain. The scholars of Quran here say that Allah SWT met a beloved; not only the beloved is adored by Allah SWT but the meeting abode of the beloved is also adored by Him. In a similar way, Allah has ornamented heaven.

### **Allah’s Invitation Card**

It is a common practice that invitation cards are given before the occasion of wedding. The husband also invites people saying that everyone should be a part of this occasion of happiness. Allah SWT also has prepared an invitation card; in the Quran, He says (Surah Al-Imran):

“O my people! Come towards the pardoning from your Lord and towards heaven which is equal to the space between the earth and the sky”

At another occasion, Allah SWT says (Surah Yunus):

“Allah SWT invites you towards the home of peace”.

Thus this invitation card is received by every true believer so that he may strive for it and reach the correct destination.

### **Gift for a true believer on the occasion of meeting**

It is also a common practice that when someone meets a friend, he/she gives a gift to his/her friend. Now when a true believer will meet Allah SWT, which gift should he/she carry? Allah answers this question in the Quran (Surah Al-Shara):

“On the Day of Judgment, neither money nor sons will be of any benefit; only the person who brings forward a pure heart will be of any worth”.

### **The security gate for checking unwanted entrants**

It is a common practice that on the occasion of wedding, there is a security check for disallowing people who are not part of the wedding function. In the similar way, there is a security check outside heaven – it is called “*pul-e-Siraat*” (the bridge over hell upon which the righteous people can cross on the road to paradise). Quran says (Surah Maryam):

“Among you, everyone has to cross “*pul-e-Siraat*”. This is the final decision from your Lord. Then We will grant salvation to the ones who are pious”

### **Heaven’s Reception**

It is observed that at wedding functions, there are always people at the reception who warmly greet the incoming guests and guide them towards their respective seats. It is known as “protocol”. The people entering heaven will also be given a special protocol. It is written in the Quran (Surah Zumar):

“The pious people will be directed to heaven in the form of a group”

“The day we will collect the pious ones and direct them towards the Merciful” (Surah Maryam)

When these chosen people will enter heaven, they will have a special reception. At wedding functions, both the management as well as the host greets the guests. A similar case is with heaven. Allah SWT says (Surah Raad):

“Angels will greet them at every door and will say that “peace be upon you for being patient in the world due to which you have earned such a good home in this life””.

Thus the angels would congratulate each and every entrant of heaven with utmost happiness saying that you lived such a good life in the world due to which you eventually found a home in Allah’s favorite place. Infact (according to *tafsir*) there is a hadith which even states that Allah Himself would greet the entrants of heaven.

### **The treatment of guests in heaven**

It is observed that at functions, when the guests arrive, they are given appetizers. Similarly, in heaven, when pious people will arrive, they will be given a special kind of bread in which all the food provisions of this world will be mixed together. It would be just like a cake in which the

delicious pleasures of all the things of this world will be in a perfect combination. This treatment would be especially from Allah SWT.

It is a common practice that when people host a feast, there are multiple dishes so that the guest can pick and chose the one he likes. About heaven, Allah SWT says (Surah Ha-meem Sajda):

“You will get in heaven whatever you will wish for”

Why?

“This is a generous treatment of guests from the most Merciful” (Surah Ha-meem)

### **Heavenly home**

When people will enter heaven, they will be granted special houses. According to hadith, these houses will be made of bricks of gold and silver and the cement used to join them will be scented with musk. Thus the walls of heaven will smell like a sweet perfume. There will be some people whose houses will be made of red ruby. The person who dies while being in the path of Allah will get a house made of crystal as big as the distance of his journey in the path of Allah.

### **The company of relatives in heaven**

A person wishes for the companionship of his family in his home. Allah SWT will allow the dwellers of heaven to appeal on the behalf of those family relatives who ended up in hell. For example, the memorizer of Quran will take 10 people to heaven; the religious scholar will take 400 people. Allah SWT will be lenient in this regard. Thus the glad tidings are given in the Quran (Surah Toor):

“And those who believed and whose descendants followed them in faith - We will join with them their descendants, and We will not deprive them of anything of their deeds. Every person, for what he earned, is retained”.

Also it is said: “A person will be alongwith his beloved”

Therefore, the love that exists between people due to religion will unite them in heaven.

### **The upper storey of heaven**

When man would enter heaven, he would be given such a home that its clay would be made of musk; its roof would be full of beautifully designed patterns and stars would shine like electricity. In every home, there will be an upper storey in which the dweller would be able to

view the outside. Inside the home, there will be a garden, roses and scented air. Ibn-e-Abbas RZA used to say that Allah SWT has prepared such a home for the true believer that if it is viewed from a distance, it would appear to be exactly as a star appears to us at night.

### **The setting of a heavenly home**

In worldly homes, the problem is that once their construction is complete, a woman may have to live in it throughout her life. Neither she can increase the size of bedroom nor can she decrease it; whether she likes the kitchen or not, she has to cope with it. It has been observed that women sometimes change the setting to ward off monotony. But the special trait of a heavenly home is that everyday its design will change according to the wishes of the dweller e.g. a flower or a tree would appear wherever desired by the dweller.

### **The gardens of heaven**

Often, women have homes in a city but there is no garden in them. In heaven, however, the situation is different. Every home will have a garden in it and the trees would be full of fruits; those fruits would appear similar to the fruits of this world (Surah Baqarah) but their taste would be much more delicious.

It is mentioned in a hadith that the dwellers of heaven would be able to get the fruit in all 3 positions (standing, sitting and lying down). In this world, we have to climb on the tree to acquire the fruits but in heaven, as soon as the dweller would wish for a fruit, the tree-trunk would come forwards and present the fruit to the dweller.

In some trees, La ilaaha illallah would be written on the leaves; in some, Muhammad-ur-rasool-ullah would be written; in some others, Subhanallah or Alhamdulillah would be written. Allah SWT mentions the gardens of heaven:

“And in those two, every fruit will have two pairs” (Surah Rahman).

“In these two gardens, two springs of water will be flowing” (Surah Rahman).

“In them (each) will be two springs pouring forth water in continuous abundance” (Surah Rahman).

“In them will be Fruits, dates and pomegranates” (Surah Rahman)

“Both will be dark-green in colour (from plentiful watering)”. (Surah Rahman)

“The fruit of the gardens will be near (and easy of reach). Then which of the favors of your Lord will ye deny?” (Surah Rahman)

## **Music in heaven**

It is mentioned in a hadith that when a breeze will blow in heaven, a beautiful kind of music would be produced due to the gentle movements of the leaves of the trees.

## **Springs of heaven**

In heaven, there will be  
.....springs of honey  
.....springs of water  
.....springs of wine  
.....springs of milk

On the sides of these springs, there will be camps, sheets of silk, pillows and resting places for the dwellers of heaven. There will be one spring of rehmah that will pass through all the houses of heaven; it will be like a swimming pool in which every dweller would be able to take a bath if he/she wants to.

## **The different grades of heaven**

Allah has made different grades within heaven that have the following names:-

Dar-ul-Jalaal  
Dar-ul-Islam  
Janat-ul-Mawi  
Janat-ul-Khald  
Janat-ul-Naem  
Janat-ul-Qarar  
Janat-ul-Firdaus  
Janat Adan

Janat Adan is the abode of Allah SWT's meeting with a true believer. That is why it has been created by Allah Himself. This is the place of reunion with the beloved; it is said:

Its clay will be made of musk  
Its grass will be made of saffron  
Its pebbles will be made of pearls  
Its dust would be made of amber  
Its ground will be made of silver

And clouds would come and the water of... will fall into Janat Adan. Just like a room freshener, the entire place would be full of sweet smell.

### **The furniture of a heavenly home**

Commonly, furniture is required in a home. Women exert their efforts to acquire and place the best and long-lasting furniture in their homes. Allah SWT has created furniture in heavenly homes as well. It is said that there will be thrones of gold. Special pillows will be there on which the dwellers of heaven will sit and talk with each other.

### **The foods of heaven**

In the world, women have to put in so much effort for preparing food. If there is a feast, although the guests have fun but the woman who has to stand all day in front of the oven gets tired of it. In heaven, the case will be totally different. The woman would only think of a menu, a cloud will appear and the entire food will be ready on a table-cloth. In the Quran, Allah says (Surah Waqya):

“With vessels, pitchers and a cup [of wine] from a flowing spring. No headache will they have therefrom, nor will they be intoxicated. And fruit of what they select; and the meat of fowl, from whatever they desire”.

The foods of paradise will be so delicious that when a dweller would eat them, he/she would be repulsed by the thought of what he/she used to eat in the worldly life. The most exciting aspect of it would be that the dweller would not fear being overweight. In heaven, people would eat for pleasure, not for hunger. When their stomachs will be full, they will just burp once; their burps will smell like musk and they will again start eating.

### **The servants of heaven**

How wonderful will be that place about whose servants, Allah says (Surah Insan):

“There will circulate among them young boys made eternal. When you see them, you would think them [as beautiful as] scattered pearls”.

When a companion of the holy prophet listened to this verse, he said in wonder that if the servants would be like pearls, how glorious and beautiful would the owners of that house.

### **The attire of heaven**

In the world, when a woman buys or prepares a dress, she has to wash it again and again in order to continue wearing it for a long period of time. Deep inside her heart, she longs to wear a new dress every day. However, in heaven, Allah SWT has prepared a special boutique for every woman in her home. It is mentioned in a hadith that there will be a tree of pomegranate; when she would open a pomegranate, there would be a dress inside it; the dress would be so

beautiful that 70,000 shades of different colors would be visible through it. Ibn-e-Abbas RZA stated that the women of paradise would get beautiful dresses from the fruit, pomegranate.

### **The Jewelry of Heaven**

In this world, women have a craving for jewelry. They wear gold and diamond. In heaven too, there will be jewelry. The women would obviously wear it; however, even men will be given bangles of gold. Commonly, when young men hear this, they become very surprised. Today, if someone has worn a really expensive watch on his wrist, he wants it to be seen by others. Just like a watch becomes a source of grace in this world, a bangle of gold will be a source of grace in paradise; it will look beautiful on men and women alike. It is mentioned in a hadith that women would wear anklet on their feet which, while walking, would create a sound that would be adored by the men in paradise.

### **The Vehicles of Heaven**

We observe that there are different means of transportation in this world. In heaven, there will be a special kind of horses for men i.e. white horses with black stripes. For women, there will be she-camels with saddles upon them. These “vehicles” will be such that when they will move, their neighing would produce a sound sweeter than music.

### **The Sound System of Heaven**

We observe that in worldly homes, there are sound systems for various purposes. It is mentioned in a hadith that in heavenly homes, there will be some virgins whose sole duty would be to recite the holy Quran in the most beautiful manner. We may call these as the cassette players of heaven.

### **The timings of heaven**

Just as we have an estimate about time in this world, there would be time in the hereafter as well. According to Allama Qurtabi RHT, the distinction between day and night would be such that the curtains of heaven would be lifted or would fall which would enable the dwellers to know time.

Just as we have the timings of 5 prayers in this world, whenever the time of prayer would arrive, the leaves of heavenly trees would form the sound of “Allah-u-Akbar”. The angels, too, would utter the same words and the dwellers would recall that this was the time when they used to prostrate before Allah SWT. The estimation of Friday would be that certain dwellers would be blessed with the unveiling of Allah SWT. On the start of every month, Allah SWT will give a gift to every dweller. On the occasion of Eid, Allah SWT Himself would host a feast.

## **The beauty of the women in heaven**

In this world, a woman has to live with the physical attributes given to her by Allah SWT. In heaven, women will be granted beauty of their own choice. In heaven, there will be a special market in which women will go along with their husbands and will be granted beauty exactly as desired by them. Allah SWT says (Surah Rahman):

“In it, there will be pious and beautiful women”

“As if they were rubies and coral”

“Women limiting [their] glances”

“Just like something is preserved in an egg-shell”. (Surah Saffaat)

.....The women of heaven will possess beauty even more than the virgin *ayen*

.....The women of heaven will have golden crowns on their heads

.....The age of the women of heaven will always be 18 whereas men will always be 32

.....The women will have neither menstrual cycles nor pregnancy or any form of sickness. They will remain in a state of both health and purity forever.

## **The declaration of Allah’s pleasure**

It is mentioned in a hadith that when the dwellers of heaven will reach heaven, Allah SWT will ask them, “Are you happy here?” Everyone will say, “Yes we are extremely happy”. Allah SWT will make an announcement saying, “Oh my people, you are happy with me and I am happy with you. From now on, I will never ever be displeased with you”. At this, the dwellers of heaven would be blooming with joy and happiness.

## **The Unveiling of Allah SWT in heaven**

In heaven, the dwellers would see Allah SWT without veils. They would rush to the Janat-e-Adan. They will prepare for this event just like worldly people do for a wedding function. It is mentioned in a hadith that the Holy Prophet SWS would go with Hazrat Adam AS, Ibrahim AS, Musa AS, Isa AS and many angels would surround him. For prophets, there will be plinths of light; for *siddiqeen*, there will be thrones of light; for martyrs, there will be chairs of light; for *saliheen*, there will be mattresses of musk.

First, Allah SWT will arrange a feast. The lowest level of dweller in heaven would have in front of him/her as many as 70,000 dishes of different foods. The special thing about these would be that with every bite, the taste would become more and more delicious. After eating, the dwellers would be given special attires by the angels which would be robes of honor from Allah

SWT. Then a wind would blow spreading a perfume throughout the heaven. Then Hazrat Daud AS will recite the Quran which would be so beautiful that the dwellers would seek pleasure from it for many hundred years. Then the holy prophet SWS will recite Surah Yasin and Surah Ta. Later, a time will come when, according to hadith, Allah Himself would recite the Quran.

When the dwellers would see Allah SWT unveiled, a zephyr of light would blow which would enhance the beauty of the dwellers. When they would return to their houses, the virgins as well as the servants would stare at the dwellers because of their stunning beauty for 500 years.

### **The allotment of heavenly homes takes place in this world**

Be aware! The allotment of heavenly homes takes place in this world. Thus, every woman should try her utmost to secure a plot in the hereafter. In prayer, utter the same words which were said by Hazrat Asia (RA):

“Allah, grant me in heaven a house near You”

Prayers get accepted at the time of Sehr and Iftar. If you fast properly and pray with sincerity, Allah SWT may grant you a home near Himself. The month of Ramadhan is the month of allotment. During this month, heaven is being sold for sale i.e. at a much cheaper price. Thus allotment is much easier.

### **Why is heaven inexpensive?**

At this point, a question needs to be raised. Why did Allah SWT make heaven so inexpensive and easily accessible? One wonders that Allah SWT should have made it much harder than it is. He should have said that “if you want heaven, you should first pass through fire to earn it” but Allah SWT has not put such a condition at all. He has only asked man to follow His injunctions and that would be sufficient. So why is this heaven so inexpensive?

### **The expulsion from heaven due to few grains**

It is worth wondering as to what caused the expulsion of Hazrat Adam AS from heaven? Just a few grains of wheat that he ate; Allah SWT said to Adam AS that from his descendants, there will be certain people who would sacrifice few grains of..... in the path of Allah SWT due to which they will be granted heaven. That is why heaven is made inexpensive.

### **Easy repentance for the Ummah of Holy Prophet SWS**

There is a noteworthy point. The scholars say that according to the habit of Allah SWT, the following is true:

“What you sow is what you reap”

When Hazrat Musa AS invited Bani Israel to accept faith, the people replied:  
“We will not accept faith till we see Allah SWT with our own open eyes” (Surah Baqarah)

Thus Bani Israel put a condition for acceptance of faith. Allah SWT, too, put a condition for repentance. Allah ordered them to kill themselves in order to be forgiven. However, in the case of Holy Prophet SWS, the situation is completely different. When the holy prophet SWS presented his faith, his companions accepted it without any proof or evidence. Since this Ummah did not ask for any argument while accepting faith, Allah SWT has said to this Ummah that, O my people, if you want to repent on your sins, I will not ask for anything from you except a state of inner guilt in your heart. I will forgive all your sins if you are really sorry for them. Thus what you sow is what you reap.

### **In heaven, the quantity of followers of this Ummah will be highest**

It is mentioned in hadith that on the Day of Judgment, there will be 120 rows of people out of which 80 will belong to the Ummah of Holy Prophet SWS which means that 2 portions will belong to this Ummah and one portion will belong to all the other Ummahs. You must have heard about the law of inheritance:

“For men, there is twice the allotted portion of women”

So, Allah SWT has allotted the portions of heaven in such a way that His beloved’s Ummah is granted twice the share of the other Ummahs.

### **The Ummah of Muhammad SWS will enter heaven without accountability**

It is mentioned in a hadith that on the Day of Judgment, there will be 70,000 people of this Ummah who will enter heaven without any accountability. Although initially this thought is very heartening and encouraging but when one ponders on the fact that those 70,000 already includes

.....the companions of Holy Prophet SWS,

.....their companions

.....and then their companions

.....many true friends of Allah

.....*Mufasireen, muhadiseen, fuqaha* etc

one inevitably thinks that there is no probability of he/she being among those chosen servants of Allah.

70,000 seems to be a small quantity but according to hadith, each of these 70,000 will further take 70,000 people alongside him/her. When one read this, an intense longing develops in the heart; oh Allah, when your mercy is so enormous, then we are not worthy of any accountability; please kindly grant us your heaven without any answerability. Thus at the time of Iftar, we should especially ask for this Dua:

How will we earn this home of heaven? In the forthcoming lectures, we will focus on the deeds that, according to hadith, will earn us a place in the best abode. May Allah grant us the guidance and conviction to do these deeds and give us a home in His proximity.

# **10 DEEDS THAT WILL EARN US A PLACE IN HEAVEN**

## **The deeds that will earn us a place in heaven**

Today we will discuss 10 such deeds that will earn us a place in heaven. It is expected that you will listen attentively, memorize it, practice it and spread this knowledge among others as well.

### **The significance of memorizing 40 hadith**

The holy prophet SWS said that:

“The person who memorizes 40 hadith with the intention of benefitting my Ummah in the matters of religion will be resurrected by Allah as a jurist and on the Day of Judgment, I will intercede on his behalf....”

A mother remembers innumerable things said by her child; a wife can recall a thousand things said by her husband; it is a testimony to love that we should memorize many sayings of the holy prophet SWS. It is not necessary that these sayings have to be long; even extremely small quotes are also included. For instance:

“Make greetings common among yourself and spread it”

It is very easy to remember this small phrase; it was quoted to encourage every woman to memorize 40 hadith so that they earn the intercession of the Holy Prophet SWS on the Day of Judgment.

### **The bouquet of 10 deeds**

It is possible that you may already be following the teachings of these hadith but you may be unaware of their real significance. My contribution is only to give these teachings the form of a beautiful bouquet so that their importance is injected in your heart. You may understand this by an example. Suppose there are rice, oil and lentil in a kitchen. All 3 things are available but it is the cook that mixes these ingredients in the right proportion to prepare a dish known as *kichri* in Urdu. It is the cook that makes it as tasty as possible.

#### **Deed # 1**

##### **Ablution and the prayer after ablution**

It has been reported by Umar Bin Khattab RZA that the holy prophet SWS said that:

The person who performs the act of ablution in a proper and desirable manner and recites the following:

Thus the woman who performs ablution, recites the *kalma-e-Shahada*, and then recites the following prayer:

“O Allah! Make me among the repentant people and make me among the purified people”

When this prayer is recited, then it is mentioned in the hadith that: “8 doors of heaven will be opened for this person; he will be allowed to enter through whichever door he chooses”.

These words are uttered from the tongue of the person who always speaks the truth. It is understood that every woman performs ablution before Salat but most do not know about these small details that can make such a big difference. This narration is from Tirimzi Shareef. You should memorize it.

### **The importance of ablution**

Ablution itself is a form of worship in Islam. One wonders why washing few organs of body should be considered as worship; the reason is that not only we attain physical purity through it but also spiritual purification. Just as water cleans our outer organs, the words of repentance clean our soul. Salat itself is the highest form of worship; since ablution is its pre-requisite and the pre-requisite of any worship is also worship; thus ablution is also worship. Furthermore, by reciting *kalma-e-Shahada*, one affirms his religious conviction in Islam which is an extremely pleasurable act in the sight of Allah.

It is mentioned in a hadith that “on the Day of Judgment, my Ummah will be recognized by the shining of their organs of ablution” meaning that the organs we wash in ablution will be like shining and sparkling light on that day.

### **The habit of being in a state of ablution**

Our religious elders used to remain in a state of ablution permanently because of the following hadith:

“You will die in the same condition as the one in which you live”

Thus our elders used to say that if we remain in a state of ablution in our lives, death will also approach us in a state of ablution which will be a source of great honor for us.

Once I got an opportunity to meet a descendant of Imam Mujaddid Alf Sani RHT. His home was located in an area slightly far from the population. It was a big home and few children were playing in the ground. After a while, the time for prayers came. I said I would lead the congregation. He called the children who were playing football. One by one, they all joined the prayer. After prayer, I eagerly inquired whether the children performed ablution or not. I was told that it was a habit in their family since a long time that people right from their childhood

would always remain in a state of ablution. It struck me with great amazement that there are such people in this world who always try to remain in the state of ablution.

So if there is no reason to act otherwise, we should always try our best to remain in a state of ablution. One advantage is that it lessens the whims of Satan and *Nafs* (lower-self). The holy prophet SWS said that:

“Ablution is the weapon of a true believer”

Just like one’s enemy is afraid of one’s weapons, Satan fears the person who remains in a state of ablution.

## **Deed # 2**

### **The non-obligatory prayer after ablution**

When you have performed the ablution, now you should try to offer two *rakaat* of optional prayer which is known as “Salaat-ul-tahayatul-wuzu”; however, there are 3 occasions when you cannot offer this optional prayer.

1. From Fajar till sunrise
2. In the afternoon, when, for 15 to 20 minutes, the sun is directly over our heads
3. From Asar till Maghrib

It is mentioned in a hadith:

“Abdullah Bin Bureeda RZA narrates from his father that the holy prophet SWS called Bilal RZA and said:

“How were you ahead of me in heaven? When I entered heaven, I heard your footsteps ahead of me”

Bilal RZA replied: “O Allah’s beloved messenger! Whenever I perform the call to prayer, I offer two rakaat of optional prayer, and, whenever I have to break my ablution, I perform ablution afterwards”

The holy prophet SWS said:

“Due to these two reasons, you were ahead of me in heaven”.

Thus Allah SWT promoted Bilal RZA to high ranks because of his habit of offering two rakaat of optional prayer after ablution. It takes not more than two minutes to do it. That is why I have said that heaven is extremely inexpensive and easily accessible.

### **Deed # 3**

#### **Listening to the call of prayer and answering it**

Whenever you listen to the call of prayer, you should always answer it. Nowadays, due to hi-tech audio systems, the sound of call of prayer reaches every home. The hadith is narrated by Umar bin khattab RZA according to whom the holy prophet SWS said which means:

“When the caller of prayer says, “Allah-u-Akbar, Allah-u-Akbar”, you also repeat “Allah-u-Akbar, Allah-u-Akbar””

“When the caller of prayer says, “Ash hadu Allah ilaaha illallah”, you also repeat “Ash hadu Allah ilaaha illallah””

“When the caller of prayer says, “Ash hadu ana Muhammad-ar-rasoolullah”, you also repeat the same words”

“When the caller of prayer says, “Haye-allal-salaa”, you do not repeat the same words but you say, “la howla wala quwata ila billa””

“When the caller of prayer says, “haye-allal-falaa”, you again say, “la howla wala quwata ila billa””

“When the caller of prayer says, “Allah-u-Akbar”, you also repeat “Allah-u-Akbar””

“When the caller of prayer says, “la-ilaaha-illal-la”, you also say, “la-ilaaha-illal-la””

“The person who does this will enter heaven”.

Neither you have to be a scholar of Islam to utter these words nor you need to have any money in your pocket. This again proves how easy and inexpensive is the way to heaven.

### **Deed # 4**

#### **Building a mosque**

Usman Bin Affan RZA narrates the following hadith:

“Allah will build a home in heaven for the person who builds a mosque for the pleasure of Allah”

Here, the words ‘mosque’ and ‘home’ need special attention. Here mosque can mean even the smallest mosque in which only 2 people can offer prayers. On the contrary, the word home refers to a big home. How Merciful is Allah SWT!

In the building of a mosque, there are two ways in which one can contribute; one is to invest financially. It is not necessary that you contribute in thousands or millions; Allah SWT will see the purity beneath your intention even if you contribute a single penny. The second way is to allot a place in your home purely for the purpose of offering your prayers and reciting the holy quran. This is equivalent to building

a mosque within your own home. This practice is not very uncommon. I am sure that many people may already have such a place in their homes. This is again a very generous deal from Allah SWT.

## **Deed # 5**

### **The Proper Offering of Salat**

The proper offering of salat is also a key to the doors of paradise. Ibadah Bin Samat RZA narrates that the holy prophet SWS said:

“There are 5 prayers which have been prescribed as compulsory by Allah SWT”

“The person who performs ablution in the desirable manner, offers his prayer at the appointed time, bows down properly and says his prayers with concentration, Allah SWT has promised to forgive this person”.

It means that it is the promise of Allah SWT to forgive the sins of such a person. A lot of women already pray 5 times a day but if you have this hadith in mind, then your focus during prayer will be enhanced and you will pray with your heart and soul. This is not the promise of humans about which it is said:

“What can be said about the promise that was fulfilled”.

This is the promise of Allah SWT about which it is said:

“The promise is that which is fulfilled”

Thus whenever you offer your prayers, pray:

.....with perfection

.....with focus

.....with calmness

.....each part with full composure

No one is running after us with a stick in his/her hand. When one has to offer prayers, why not invest few more minutes to earn the promised reward from Allah i.e. heaven.

### **The steadfast offering of Sunnat-e-Mauqida**

Whenever we offer prayers, we usually offer *Sunnat-e-Mauqida* as well; there are glad tidings of heaven on these. Listen with full concentration!

Aisha RZA narrates that the holy prophet SWS said:

“Allah will build a home in heaven for the person who offers 12 *rakaats* of Sunnah with steadfastness”.

“Four *rakaats* before Zuhr (meaning before the obligatory (farz) rakaats of Zuhr) and two *rakaats* after Zuhr, two rakaats after maghrib, two rakaats after isha and two rakaats before fajar”

These are the twelve rakaats mentioned in the hadith above. Alhamdulillah! In our part of the world, whoever learns Salat already knows that these 12 portions should be offered. On this the holy prophet has promised a dwelling in heaven.

### **The steadfast offering of Nawafil**

Whenever you find the opportunity, you should offer nawafil prayers. On this too, there are glad tidings of heaven. Rabya Bin Kaab RZA said that he spent one night with the holy prophet SWS.

“I served the holy prophet SWS regarding the water of ablution and other necessities”

“The holy prophet SWS said to me, “what do you wish for?””

“I said, “your companionship in heaven””

“The holy prophet SWS said, “Anything else?”

“I said, “No I don’t need anything else”

“The holy prophet SWS said, “Now you prostrate along with me in abundance so that you may find a place along with me in heaven”

Subhanallah! What could be happier news than knowing that the abundance of prostration (i.e. abundance of nawafil prayers) will grant us a place alongside the beloved of Allah SWT.

### **Deed # 7**

#### **The especially prescribed invocations that lead people to heaven**

There are some invocations that have a special affiliation with entrance in heaven.

##### **1. Ayat-ul-Kursi**

There is another hadith of which mentioning here is vital. Hazrat Ali RZA narrates that the holy prophet SWS said:

“Besides death, there is nothing else that separates a person from heaven who recites ayat-ul-kursi at the end of every salah”

It means that as soon as death will approach him/her, he/she will enter heaven. This is such a small deed and it is giving us the guarantee of heaven from holy prophet SWS. Most women have already memorized ayat-ul-kursi. Thus you should make it a habit to recite it (at the end of salah) just before praying.

Besides, in another hadith, it is mentioned that if this ayat is recited in the morning and evening, Allah will protect such a home as well as the life of the individual.

## 2. Sayed-al-Istighfar

There is another deed which you should adopt and that is Sayed-al-Istighfar. Shadad Bin Awaz RZA narrates that the holy prophet SWS said that Sayed-al-Istighfar is that you say:

You can find it written in books and pamphlets. If it is read after salah, the holy prophet SWS said:

“If one recites it after morning with conviction and if he dies the same day, he will be a dweller of paradise and if he recites it after evening with conviction and if he dies the same night, he will be a dweller of paradise”.

Subhanallah! You should make it as a habit to recite Sayed-al-Istighfar so that you are a dweller of heaven whether you die in the morning or evening.

## 3. Reciting La-howl

There is another deed which is even smaller than the previous one. Qays Bin Saal RZA narrates that the holy prophet SWS said:

“Shouldn't I tell you about one door among the doors of heaven?”

“I said, Yes certainly O beloved of Allah”

“To recite la howla wala quwata ila bila”

You should also make it a habit. After every prayer, even if you recite it 21 times, it is also enough but you should not go beyond 100 because that would be in abundance and that has its own side-effects.

### **Deed # 8**

#### **Fasting**

The 8<sup>th</sup> deed that will earn you heaven is fasting. The holy prophet SWS said about fasting:

“There is one door of heaven which is known as “rayaan” and on the Day of Judgment, the people who fast will pass through it on their way to heaven; besides these people no one else will be allowed to pass through it”.

Firstly, we should obviously fast in the month of Ramadhan. Secondly, if it is possible, we should fast on the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of every month (according to Islamic calendar). Furthermore, for unmarried girls, my advice would be to fast on the Sunday and Thursday of every week.

### **Deed # 9**

#### **Pilgrimage**

There are many women who have been granted good worldly means. Pilgrimage is obligatory on such women. The holy prophet SWS said that:

“The reward of pilgrimage (that is accepted in the eyes of Allah) is nothing but heaven”

The people who have not yet performed it should ask their parents, their relatives or their offspring to help them in this matter.

### **Deed # 10**

To pass Islamic greetings /salutations

Abdullah Bin Salaam RZA narrates that when holy prophet SWS entered Madinah after migration, many people came to meet him. “I also went alongside them to have a glimpse of the prophet. When I saw his face, I recognized that this could not be the face of a liar”. Subhanallah! Abdullah RZA was a Jew at that time. Imagine how enlightened must be the face of the holy prophet SWS. “The first thing that the holy prophet SWS said:

O my people spread greetings among you, feed the needy, rejoin family ties with those who cut it and when people are asleep, offer *tahajud* prayers in the night so that you may enter heaven”

Note that the first thing was about the Islamic way of greetings/salutations.

Thus, these are the 10 deeds which form a highway to heaven. May Allah grant us the guidance and conviction to act on our knowledge. You should memorize this precious information. Spread this to as many people as possible. Practice these deeds with steadfastness. May Allah have mercy on us (humble servants) and in return of this Ramadhan, grant us an abode in His proximity. Amen!

**THE REWARD OF TRAINING  
CHILDREN AND SERVING  
PARENTS IS HEAVEN**

## **THE BEAUTY OF ISLAM**

It is the beauty of Islam that whenever two individuals are involved, it will inform both about their rights over each other. A master is informed about the rights of a servant. A servant is informed about the rights of a master. A husband is informed about the rights of a wife and the vice-versa. Parents are told how to train their children. Children are told how to serve their parents. The wealthy man is instructed how to pay the laborer. The laborer is instructed how to work for his boss. Elders are taught to show compassion towards their juniors. The juniors are taught to show utmost respect to their elders. Neighbors are taught to be good to one another. Thus every Muslim is asked to be good to other Muslims. Even the animals which are kept in homes have rights prescribed by Shariah. How beautiful is this religion. It is so heartening to know that our religion has given us detailed guidelines on the reconstruction of an ideal society. If we follow these guidelines, we can truly form an example of a paradise on earth.

### **Today's Topic**

Today's topic of discussion is that the correct discharging of rights/responsibilities between parents and children is also a shortcut to heaven. Thus the house in which parents have granted their children proper moral training, the children become a source of coolness for the eyes. The children who truly serve the parents earn their sincere prayers. Both parents and children in this process earn an easy entry into heaven.

### **The entry into heaven due to moral training of two daughters or sisters**

Abu Saeed Khadri RZA narrates that holy prophet SWS said that "the person who bears the burden of proper moral training of 3 daughters or sisters, or, 2 daughters or sisters. Then that person teaches them ethics, treats them with good manners until they get married; Allah will grant this person paradise"

### **The custom in the age of ignorance**

I especially mentioned the hadith above about girls because on their birth, few ignorant people are displeased. This was the custom in the age of ignorance that people became unhappy when they heard the news of the birth of a female. Infact, before the advent of holy prophet SWS, baby girls were buried alive. Even today, there are some people who are happier on the birth of a son. This is against the teachings of Islam. Both sons and daughters are equally sources of blessings from Allah SWT.

### **The daughters who will lead to heaven**

There was a man who was weeping while praying in the mosque. Someone inquired about it. He said that, "I have 6 daughters and my wife is again pregnant. I used to scold her that if you again give birth to a daughter, I will send you back to your previous home. Tonight, I saw in my dream that it was the Day of Judgment; when I was held accountable for my deeds, my sins outweighed my good actions. The angels of punishment came and took me to hell. When I reached the first gate of hell, I saw that my daughter was standing there and saying to the angels that this is my father who undertook my proper

training; I will not let him go to hell. Similarly when I reached the second gate, I saw my second daughter. However when I reached the seventh gate, it was empty. At that time, it occurred to me that if I had a seventh daughter, she would have saved me from hell. Then suddenly I woke up. Now I am repenting repeatedly on the fact that I used to consider my daughters as a burden; I am asking Allah SWT again and again to grant me one more daughter so that I am saved from hell”.

### **The reward of moral training of children is in this world as well as the hereafter**

The holy prophet SWS has told us about the glad tidings of heaven for those parents engage themselves in the proper moral training of their children. Parents should exert their full efforts in this process. The rewards are not only in the hereafter but also in this world. The worldly rewards are that if children are pious and well-behaved, they become a source of peace for the parents in their old age. If children are disobedient, then the opposite is true.

Parents should discharge their responsibilities according to the rights of their children. If they do not focus on proper moral training, they will be held accountable on the Day of Judgment. On that day, each individual will be bothered only about their own salvation. Thus if the children hold their parents as guilty, the sins of the children will be transferred into the account of their parents.

### **Who is poor?**

The holy prophet SWS asked his companions, “Who is poor? The companions replied, “The one who has no wealth or resources” the prophet SWS replied, “No, the poor person is he who does good deeds but fails to discharge the rights of others. On the Day of Judgment, people will ask Allah for their rights; all the good deeds of that person will be transferred into the account of other people. When people will continue to ask for their rights, their sins will be transferred into the account of that person””. Thus this person will be ruined. How unfortunate is the state of such a person. The same applies to the children who were deprived of good guidance by their parents. These children will show no loyalty to their parents on the Day of Judgment.

### **The appeal of children on the Day of Judgment**

Allah SWT says in the Quran that on the Day of Judgment, children or subordinates will submit a case in the Divine Court (Surah Alhazab):

“Oh Allah! We simply followed our elders. They led us astray”

Mother used to say that you should become a doctor; so I became a doctor. Mother used to say that you should become a business man; so I became a business man. She never asked me about the offering of prayers. She used to say that if you will fast, you will become weak. She never taught me religion in the first place. If she had taught me religion, I would have followed it. I simply used to follow her guidelines. O Allah, she did not show me the path towards piety; she only showed me the path towards worldliness.

“Oh Allah! Give them twice the punishment and descend upon them the rain of curses”

(Surah Alhazab)

Just imagine! If the children whom you feed with so much love do not become religious, they will, on the Day of Judgment, say this in front of the whole creation. How important is the moral training of children. This will be the time when children would be no more loyal to their parents. The Quran says (Surah Abs):

“On that day man would run away from his brother, runaway from his mother and father, runaway from his wife and children”.

### **Do not leave children on their own**

It has been observed that some people send their children to other homes or in the streets for playing just like a shepherd lets go off his goats. Such children become deprived of good manners.

### **Lack of moral training may ruin descendants**

If parents would not engage in moral training, its adverse effects would be visible in the forthcoming generations rather than just one or two people. There will be no Islam in their veins.

### **Parent’s curse on disobedient children**

It has been observed in some homes that parents, after not having conducted moral training, find their disobedient children very troublesome. Now they start cursing them through bad prayers or words like:

“May Allah deprive you of happiness”

“May Allah deal with you strictly”

How strange is such a mother. If she had invested her time, intellect and energy in moral training, she would not have seen this day. On the contrary, she should think in such a way as to blame her own self for her failure as a parent.

### **The strange case of father and son**

You should know that parents who failed to conduct moral training have no right to expect to be served. I am saying this with proper argument. Listen carefully! In the court of Umar RZA, a father brought his son and said that “this is my son but he does not listen to me and does not obey me”. Umar RZA asked the son: “why are you disobedient?” The son asked Umar RZA, “Do parents alone have rights over children or is it the other way around as well?” Umar RZA replied, “yes the children also have rights over their parents”. The son asked, “which one?” Umar RZA replied, “the first right is to find a religious mother. The second right is being granted a good name on birth. The third right is being granted the education of quran and religion”. The son said that, “my father married such a woman who was impious. Thus the first condition was not fulfilled. When I was born, I was named Jaal which means “the one with black color”. Thus the name was also not good. Thirdly, I never received quranic education at all. Thus none of my rights were given to me”. When Umar RZA heard this, he told the father, “when you have

not fulfilled the rights of your son, you should not expect your rights to be fulfilled as well". After saying this, Umar RZA closed the case.

### **Impious woman will take 4 people to hell**

On the Day of Judgment, there would be an impious woman about whom it would be ordered to send her to hell. She will say in front of Allah SWT:

"Oh Allah I was a woman. I used to obey the men in my house but they never taught me anything about religion.

....My father himself used to offer his prayers 5 times a day but never instructed me to pray.

....My husband himself was religious and although used to love me but never guided me towards religion

....my brother himself was on the right path. He knew that I was astray but did not say anything to me

....my son was also a pious person but never invited me towards piety. If these 4 people would have adopted the right attitude towards me, I would have been a different person but that was never the case".

According to hadith, this woman would take these 4 people to hell.

### **The wisdom behind the reliance of salvation or damnation on the Day of Judgment**

As soon as someone dies, his/her future fate is not yet decided at that time. Although Allah SWT could have easily granted someone heaven/hell right after death but He does not do so. Although, one gets the punishment or reward to some extent in the grave but the final decision is contingent on the hereafter. That is why the Judgment Day is also known as "the Day of Decision" and "the Day of victory or defeat". O man, on that Day, you will either be defeated or become victorious. There is no third way. So what is the wisdom behind delaying the final decision till Judgment Day? The reason is that on that Day, everyone will be in front of each other; people will ask for their rights; the distinction between the victim and the oppressor will be clear. Justice will take place. The significance of not only rights of Allah but also rights of people will be highlighted on that Day. Thus that will be the most important day.

This should be kept in mind that a forthcoming child will be either a source of heaven or hell. The actions of children have a serious impact on the account of deeds of the parents.

"The one who becomes the source of virtue is equivalent to the one who does virtue".

Allah SWT says in the Quran (Al-Tahreem):

"O people of faith! Save yourself and your families from the fire of hell".

### **Moral Training of children can take place in rich families as well**

It is noteworthy that rich parents cannot exempt themselves from moral training due to excessive wealth. People may have the equivalents of gold and silver in their bank accounts, but if they want to, they can truly exert themselves. I will narrate a famous anecdote.

There was a king in Kabul by the name of Ameer Dost Muhammad. His wife was a very pious woman. When their son reached adulthood, he was sent to a war. The news reached them that their son had been defeated in the war and he had run away. The king was extremely saddened by this. His wife inquired about what had happened. When the king told her about their son's fate, she said that it must have been a false report. She did not believe in it. After few days, the news reached them that their son had neither been defeated nor had run away; in fact, on the contrary, he had devised a special strategy which had won him the war. The king was amazed to hear this; he asked his wife as to how was she so sure that the earlier news was wrong. She replied that since the time he was born, she always used to give him milk in a state of ablution. Not for once, she gave her son milk without ablution. How beautiful must have been her training. Thus even people living in palaces can properly train their children if they truly fear Allah SWT.

### **When animals can be properly trained, why not humans?**

Human beings have a special quality. When they properly train wild animals, they are successful in molding the habits of those wild animals. Here people of Zambia visit game parks. They know that humans train lions as well as elephants. One wonders if this is possible, how come training of humans is not possible. Among living beings, it is the innate nature of parents to train their offspring. You must have heard that when a baby lion is born, the mother lion plays with it and teaches it how to hunt.

When baby birds are born, their eyes are closed. The mother bird brings the seeds, feeds it and teaches it how to fly and leave the nest. Thus when animals train their smaller ones, how can man, the most superior among creations, exempt himself from this vital practice?

### **The difference between Muslim parents and Non-Muslim parents**

The difference lies in the criterion of moral training. Non-Muslim parents teach their children only worldliness whereas Muslim parents teach both worldliness and about the hereafter.

### **The prayer of parents for their children is accepted**

It is mentioned in a hadith in "kanz-ul-amaal" that the prayer of parents for their children is accepted in the same way as the prayer of a prophet for his ummah is accepted. In another hadith, it is mentioned that there are 3 prayers about whose acceptance there is no doubt

1. Prayer of a victim
2. Prayer of a traveler
3. Prayer of parents

It is mentioned in a hadith that Aam Sayeb RZA was a female companion of the holy prophet SWS. She accepted Islam. Her young son died. She prayed in the following words: "Allah! I accepted Islam and my young son died. Your decisions are based on truth and justice. However, the disbelievers would taunt me by saying that I lost my son because I quit worshipping the idols. Allah, save me from this taunt and give my son one more life". It is mentioned in the hadith that Allah SWT granted her son yet another life.

It is a famous anecdote that there was a child who was blind. His parents were so desperate for the regaining of his sight that they used to pray for him in a state of sheer crying. Allah SWT was so pleased with the mother that He granted the child normal eye-sight. Then this child became one of the greatest scholars of hadith. Today we know him by the name of Imam Bukhari RHT. If, on the prayer of a parent, Allah SWT can grant someone eyesight, then the same Allah SWT can also grant someone inner sight if one prays honestly and humbly.

### **Few important points regarding the moral training of children**

1. First and foremost, if we provide our children lawful source of income, it will have a very good impact on them. The tissue of the meat that is fed with unlawful income is not satisfied without sins. Thus lawfulness of income is the primary concern in moral training of children.  
Today, in the age of Science, it is proved that when a baby is 18 weeks old, the brain starts being affected by various factors although, according to Islam, this occurs as early as when the new-born is still in the stomach of the mother. That is why the scholars of Islam state that, during pregnancy, a mother should avoid all sorts of unlawful activities. By doing so, the forthcoming children would be, hopefully, obedient.
2. Secondly, when a baby is born, his/her moral training starts from the very first day. The baby is like a plant. It is up to you what you want it to become. You can control its future growth by applying the relevant set of conditions. Usually, women, out of love, think that a baby is currently too small and would learn good manners when he will grow up. This thinking is wrong. It is just like the case in which a wall is being built and the builder starts with a crooked brick thinking that when it will be complete, the error will be corrected. It doesn't work like that. The truth is that the crookedness will continue to increase. The same is the case with children. As they grow up, their immorality will only grow further. That is why Shariah says that as soon as a baby is born, the call to prayer should be recited in one ear and *iqamah* in the other ear although at that stage a baby is so small that he cannot even understand anything at all. Yet Shariah insists that the message of oneness of Allah SWT may reach him right after birth.
3. Thirdly, till the age of 6, the responsibility of moral training lies more on the mother. After this age, the child spends more time with the father.
4. Fourthly, when a baby is born, the mother should grant her own milk to him/her. There are special traits in that milk due to which the child starts loving the mother. Today, young

women, in order to maintain their physical smartness, are hesitant in giving their own milk. Thus they provide bottled (or boxed) milk due to which the child does not develop an intense love for the mother.

According to a hadith, if a woman deprives her baby of her milk without any reason, she will go to hell in which the snakes would bite her breasts.

5. Today's moral training would reap its reward tomorrow. According to a hadith, if a woman is a widow but does not marry again because of the reason that her children's training is her most important priority, she will be in heaven with the holy prophet SWS. In another hadith, it is mentioned that the holy prophet SWS said: when I will enter heaven, there will be a woman alongside me who would enter with me. I would be amazed and ask her who is she? She would reply that she was a widow. She wanted to marry for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time and live a happier life but did not do so because of love for her children. She conducted proper moral training of her children and lived a poor life instead. Now (in the hereafter) she wanted to be with me". The prophet SWS said that she would enter heaven swiftly (easily) because of these deeds.
6. The elder child's training inevitably has an impact on that of the younger siblings.
7. One should choose a good name for children. Today, the custom is to find new names without any profound meaning at all. This should not be the case at all. There should be a link between the name and Allah SWT, prophets, companions of the prophet SWS and saints (e.g. Abdullah, Abdur Rahman, Abdur Raheem etc) That is why when the holy prophet SWS met someone whose name did not have a good meaning, he would change his/her name.
8. The primary factor in moral training of children is that the parents themselves should be as pious as possible. It is in the innate nature of human beings that they are influenced by their parent's character.
9. In moral training, the first trait that should be taught is chastity.  
"Chastity is one portion of faith".  
The children who lack chastity eventually lack many virtues. Thus a couple should be extremely careful about the fact that they do not indulge in any improper act in front of their children.
10. It is extremely important to give time to children. Thus a father should not be so busy in his occupation that he may have no time for children. Similarly a mother shouldn't be so busy in her friends & fashions that she may have no time for children.
11. If Allah SWT has given wealth in abundance, neither let it spoil your children nor completely deprive them of happiness. Strike a balance between the two unwanted states because "extreme of everything is bad".
12. There are some habits which should be instilled in children.
  - a) Punctuality
  - b) Steadfastness in offering prayers
  - c) Speaking truth
  - d) Memorization of prescribed prayers for every occasion and following the Sunnah method
  - e) Serving the elders

- f) Beautiful manners with the relatives
  - g) Avoiding hurting others and apologizing on mistakes
  - h) Not stealing anything in any situation
  - i) No backbiting of anyone
13. The father should instill love for the mother in the child's heart. Similarly the mother should instill respect for the father in the child. Only in this way, can the parents form a harmonious marriage. Neither the father nor the mother should say anything bad about each other to the children. Parents should avoid difference of opinion among each other in front of their children. If there is something under discussion, it should be done privately.
  14. Part of good moral training is that you should save your children from co-education and mixed gatherings.
  15. Do not let these things enter your home i.e. TV, internet, music etc. These things ruin your child's spirituality. Remember that the person who is disobedient to Allah SWT will also be disobedient to parents.
  16. When the children grow up, get them married as soon as possible. It is proved from a saying of holy prophet SWS that as soon as one finds the right partner for one's daughter, he/she should not delay it at any costs. In today's age, one major reason behind so much lack of religiosity is that adult girls are not married due to one reason or the other. Most of these reasons are not valid according to Shariah. It inevitably leads to sinfulness among young people.
  17. Before expecting obedience from children, the parents themselves should be obedient to their own parents. It leaves an extremely good impression on the grandchildren.
  18. Some parents are, in their love, enemies of their children. It sounds extremely strange but that is the truth. The first example is those who only grant worldly education. The second example is those who from a very young age order their children to earn livelihood and thus deprive them of knowledge. The third example is those who are so lenient that they are not even strict in matters where they should be strict.
  19. That is why it is said that mothers should love their children in the same way as Allah SWT loves His creation.

Every woman has an intense love for her children but she should learn, in contrast, the kind of love Allah has for His creation because:

Motherly love is governed by passion whereas Allah's love is based on balance.

Motherly love lacks intellect whereas Allah's love is based on wisdom

Motherly love lacks patience whereas Allah's love is based on patience

Motherly love can involve favoritism whereas Allah's love is based on justice

There is animalism in motherly love whereas there is humanism in Allah's love

Thus mother should not give preference to one child over another; otherwise, feelings of inferiority complex and jealousy would creep into the heart of one child.

### **The entry into heaven due to service and obedience to parents**

Till now, our focus was on the parents and their attitudes towards children. Now we would discuss, on the contrary, how children should behave with their parents. It is mentioned in a hadith:

“That person's nose should be polluted, that person's nose should be polluted, that person's nose should be polluted”

It was a custom among Arabs in those times that when a person was cursed, people would utter the words (your nose should be polluted). When holy prophet SWS was asked as to which person he was referring to, he replied:

“The person who found one or both parents in old age and did not attain salvation by serving them. That person will not enter heaven”.

### **Heaven lies beneath the feet of mothers**

It is mentioned in a hadith that:

“Heaven lies beneath the feet of mothers”.

If there was anything below the feet, it would have been mentioned.

Holy prophet SWS said:

“Allah has made unlawful the disobedience to mother”

### **It is better for the disobedient children to die**

There is an anecdote in the Quran in which Khizar AS killed a child. When Musa AS asked why? Khizar AS replied that this child was going to grow up and become disobedient to his parents. That is why he killed him. In return Allah will grant the parents a second child who will be obedient in the future. Hence it is being proved by the Quran that it is better for the disobedient children to die.

### **Parents are a source of either heaven or hell**

It is mentioned in a hadith that: “they (parents) are either your heaven or your hell”

If you would please them, it will give you heaven; if you would displease them, it will give you hell.

It is mentioned in another hadith that two people will not enter heaven; one of them would be he who is disobedient to parents.

### **The reward on serving the parents**

There are 2 rewards for the person who serves his parents. One is that Allah SWT puts *barakah* (blessings) in his age; it means that either his life is prolonged or his health is improved. The second benefit is Allah SWT puts *barakah* and immensity in his sustenance.

During *miraaj* (ascension), the holy prophet SWS heard the recitation of Quran by a companion. On his return, the prophet SWS asked the companion if he had done a special deed. The answer was that he used to treat his mother in the best possible manner.

In Shafi school of thought, there was a renowned scholar; initially, his condition was that he did not even know Surah-e-Fatiha. In his childhood, he served his mother in a good manner due to which his mother prayed for him "Allah, fill my son's heart with the light of knowledge". This prayer had such a deep impact on the life of her son that he became, by the Grace of Allah, a man of intellect in the discipline of jurisprudence.

### **The order of Quran**

"Do not even utter the slightest word of resentment and never scold them; in fact speak to them with utmost reverence".

Shariah acknowledges the fact that during infancy, when the child would be in a state of impurity, it was the parents who used to purify him/her. If the parents reach an extremely old age in which, on the contrary, their children have to purify them, the children should not show even an expression of dislike. Thus those people who have not yet been able to treat their parents in a good manner should repent on this sin and change themselves as soon as possible.

### **Allah's displeasure on parent's displeasure**

Listen carefully to an anecdote. In the time of Prophet SWS, there was a young companion by the name Alqamah RZA. He was on his death-bed but due to some reason, his soul was not being taken away. People rushed to the Prophet SWS to tell him about Alqamah RZA. Prophet SWS asked if his parents were alive or not. He was told that the mother was alive. The Prophet SWS asked if she was happy with him or not. He was told that the mother was unhappy. The prophet sent a message to the mother requesting her to come. When the mother came, the prophet SWS asked her to forgive her son. The mother, however, said that she was so unhappy that she could not forgive her son. On this, the prophet SWS asked Bilal RZA to get hold of wood, ignite it with fire and put Alqamah RZA in it. On this, the mother asked with amazement, "O Allah's messenger, would you put my son in fire?" Prophet SWS said: "Yes this punishment is smaller than the punishment of hell. Since you are not happy with him, your son is doomed to go to hell". On hearing this, the mother's heart melted and said, "O Allah's messenger, do not put my son in fire. I forgive him". On this, Alqamah RZA recited the words of *kalma* and died instantly. Prophet SWS offered the funeral prayers and announced that the person who will hurt his

mother will be cursed by Allah SWT, the angels and all the people. Not only this, neither his obligatory worship nor his optional worship will be accepted by Allah SWT. In another hadith, it is mentioned that in father's pleasure lies Allah's pleasure and in father's anger lies Allah's anger.

### **Exemptions in matters of Shariah**

The above discourse should not lead to a huge misunderstanding. Allah SWT says in the Quran:

“There is no obedience to any creation if it involves disobedience to the Creator”

If parents ask their children to violate Shariah, then they should not be obeyed at all. However, respect is obligatory on children even in such cases.

**THE REWARD OF HEAVEN IN  
RETURN OF LOVE BETWEEN  
HUSBAND AND WIFE**

## **Today's Topic**

Allah SWT has promised heaven for such a woman whose husband is pleased with her. Salma RZA narrates that the Prophet SWS said:

“If a woman dies in a state in which her husband is pleased with her (within the bounds of Shariah), she will straight go to heaven”.

Similarly, Abu Hurairah RZA narrates:

“Those men who would make their wives happy, take care of their family's income, they will be raised on the Day of Judgment in a state when their faces will be glowing like a full moon at night”

Thus a husband should treat his wife in a beautiful manner and a wife should serve her husband in order to earn the pleasure of Allah SWT.

## **50 points regarding a happy married life**

Below are the vital keys to a happy married life:

### **Focus not on the flaws but on the qualities of your life partner**

The first important point that needs your attention is that you should always keep an eye on the good traits of your life partner. Human beings are imperfect creatures – they are a combination of vices and virtues. It depends upon the eye of the beholder. If you only focus on the vices, you cannot love your life partner. On the other hand, if you focus on the good qualities, you will begin to like him/her. It is mentioned in a hadith:

“If you ever come across a bad thing about your wife, you should look closely; there may be a lot of good things as well”.

People should be flexible and accommodating. No one is an angel. Thus we should be as forgiving as possible.

### **“Do not raise dead bodies”**

The above metaphor needs explanation. Whatever mistakes have been committed in the past should be buried in the sand. Sometimes it happens that a man taunts his wife throughout his life for something that happened many years ago. Similarly, a woman may make her husband feel bad again and again for something that occurred in the past. This can ruin a marriage.

In these matters, people should be like children. If you observe children, they cry when they are slapped but if mothers see them with the eyes of love, they start smiling after few minutes and forget what happened earlier. If children would have had grudge and revenge in their hearts, they would never return to the lap of their mothers. Similarly, children maybe quarrelling among each other but start playing after a short period of time. This is how children are and that is how grown-ups should be as well. If you feel displeasure on something, you should forget it for the pleasure of Allah SWT just like you

want your sins to be forgiven and overlooked by Allah SWT. That is why it is said that, “develop the characteristics of God in you”.

### **Control your anger**

The third vital rule to a happy marriage is that you should control your anger at all costs. This anger is an extremely harmful thing. Being angry on small things is the sign of a weak character. Threatening or fighting on petty issues is a sign of foolishness. Some people start saying things like “I will divorce you”, “I will send you back to your home” and “I can find many people like you”. Some even go to the extent of physical harassment which is the last nail in the coffin. All this happens due to anger. This relationship is a special one. It is not an ordinary bond at all. One should think with a cool mind before taking any action. Our religious elders used to say that, “first weigh then speak”. We first speak, then act and then start thinking about what happened and why it happened. That is why homes are destroyed. If one among the couple gets angry, the other should remain in a state of silence so that the situation is calmed down and everything again reaches normality after a while.

It is mentioned about a female companion of Prophet SWS that her husband became very angry and thus scolded her a lot. She kept listening to him silently till he himself became quiet. After a while, her husband started speaking in a normal tone. At that time, she smiled and said, “I knew that your treatment was in one look of smile”. On this, the husband also smiled and they started living happily with one another. Thus, practically, it is a matter of only few minutes that saves a marriage of many years. Sometimes, when the angry partner calms down, he/she would even start apologizing after a while. The same teachings apply to husbands when they deal with their wives. In marriage, anger acts like a poison.

It is a special favor from Allah SWT if He made someone full of clemency because Allah SWT Himself is like that. When someone does something undesirable in front of us, we want to teach him/her a lesson. We commit so many sins in front of Him but He does not take immediate action otherwise the earth would open up and swallow that person right away. For example, when we do not control our gaze, He does not snatch our eye-sight. When we talk rubbish, He does not take away our ability to speak. How amazing is the Divine knowledge and Divine clemency! Thus human beings should also develop the quality of clemency in their dealings with family members.

### **Do not make a mountain out of a mere particle**

This rule is extremely important for a happy marriage. Wisdom demands that everything should be put in its proper perspective. Sometimes, people make a fuss about trivial issues because of their egos. This is a spiritual sickness. Small issues should be resolved without any aggravation.

### **Mutual love should retain its passion**

It has been observed that after few years of marriage, when a couple has children, the couple loses the passion they had in their mutual love. They think that it is enough to just live with one another. No! This is not good. This relationship is for the lifetime and should retain its intensity. It is the food for the

couple. Just like a human being feels hungry after some time and has to eat....or feels thirsty and has to drink.....or feels sleepy and has to sleep.....similarly it is nature of man that time and time again, he feels the need of being loved.

It is mentioned in a hadith that holy prophet SWS said to Aisha RZA: "Humaira! You are dearer to me than the mixture of butter and date". On this Aisha RZA smiled and said, "O Allah's beloved prophet, you are dearer to me than the mixture of honey and butter". On this the prophet SWS smiled and said, "Aisha, your answer is very good". If the prophet SWS was so romantic with his wives, why cannot the husbands of today act in a similar manner with their wives. The passion should retain its intensity even in old age.

### **Avert the direction of unwanted situations**

Another secret behind a happy marriage is that if, for some reason, a bad situation has arisen, you should try your best to avert its direction. For example, there is something on which there is misunderstanding on the part of the husband. On this, the intelligent wife would try her best to distract his attention to something else. This would ensure that one partner would again become normal after a while.

### **Prevent yourself from making guesses**

One thing which can ruin a happy married life is making wild guesses about one's partner. For example a husband goes out of his home while being dressed in a very good manner and wearing a perfume. The wife should not start thinking that he goes out to meet a special lady. Similarly, if the wife talks on the phone for a long time while smiling, the husband should not start thinking that she is involved with some boyfriend. Such guesses fully involve the whispers from Satan. It is the biggest victory for Satan to break human relations especially the sacred ones. That is why Shariah has prohibited such kind of guessing.

### **Avoid suspicion**

Another thing which is harmful for marriages is to suspect one another of various things. It is clearly mentioned in the Quran, "avoid suspicion". Allah SWT has apportioned our lives in such a way that there are some things which are meant to be only between Allah SWT and us, not for any other person. If a person is not sinning openly, we should stop suspecting and investigating out of our own curiosity.

It is mentioned in a hadith that Umar RZA used to walk around at night to keep an eye on the state of the Ummah. Once, he was walking at night in a street of Madinah when he saw light in one home although it was the usual custom that people would be sleeping while keeping their lights off. He went nearer to the door for inquiry. He heard a woman and a man talking to each other. On this he thought that they were not married to each other but they were about to make love to one another. Since the door was closed, Umar RZA climbed the wall and saw the couple talking to each other. Umar RZA said, "you should fear Allah. You are sinning? On this the man replied, "I committed one sin but you have committed three sins". Umar RZA asked how? The reply came, "Firstly, you were involved in suspicion.

Secondly, Allah says: “enter the houses through their doors” whereas you entered the house after climbing the wall. Thirdly, you came in without seeking permission”. On this Umar RZA became frightened and replied, “Ok I forgive your mistake. You forgive my mistake so that on the Day of Judgment we are not answerable to each other”.

By suspecting, one usually reaches the wrong conclusion. Satan, as a result of suspicion, completely removes the love for the person from one’s heart. If there is something wrong with the situation, the remedy lies in praying to Allah and making each other understand the problem in a wise manner by mutual discussion.

### **Trust should not be broken at any cost**

It takes hardly few moments to break a trust developed in many years. Thus a wife should trust her husband and, in return, the husband should try his best to not lose his integrity at all.

### **Learn to forgive each other’s mistakes**

Allah SWT loves the person who forgives others. The Quran says:

“People who control their anger and forgive others, Allah loves such people”

### **Do not belittle each other in front of others**

It is sometimes observed that in gatherings, a husband jokes about his wife or the vice-versa. The purpose is to make the other person feel small. It is a foolish act. You should be a source of pride for each other and this should reflect when you meet other people.

### **Do not spoil your relationship due to a third person**

Sometimes it is observed that a couple wants to live happily with each other but, for example, the wife’s mother is constantly giving wrong advises to her daughter. Although she is a mother but she is, sadly, a source of *fitnah* (corruption) in this case. The same applies to a husband. The intervention of a third person who does not possess pure intentions can break a marriage. In some cases, the intentions are pure but the lack of intellect on the part of a third person results in the creation of differences within a couple. According to Shariah, Allah SWT is displeased with the person who comes in between a married couple. Thus it is mentioned in a hadith that on the Day of Judgment, Allah SWT will not look with mercy at the person who creates differences between a husband and wife.

### **Keep trying to win each other’s heart**

One should always try to do something to please one’s life partner. Allah SWT loves the act of giving someone a pleasantly unexpected surprise. It is narrated:

“When a person pleases a true believer, Allah SWT creates an angel who, till the Day of Judgment, recites the *tasbih* of Allah and on the Day of Judgment, he will become a source of entry into heaven for that person”

### **One should show romantic gestures to husband/wife**

It has been observed that ladies of the East may have an intense love for their husbands but fail to express it properly because of shyness. This is not chastity but foolishness because no woman can be superior in piety than the wives of the prophet SWS. I have already quoted earlier the romantic conversation between holy prophet SWS and Aisha RZA.

### **Take out time for mutual discussion**

One flaw is that both husband and wife are so busy in their daily activities that they do not have time for each other. A wife may be too busy with children and her husband may be too busy with his occupation. It should be made a daily habit that the couple should sit together, inquire about each other's well-being and share thoughts about their everyday ventures. This increases the love they have for each other.

### **Save yourself from hurting your husband/wife**

One should not do something that, we know, will hurt one's life partner. This is extremely disliked by Allah SWT.

### **Make each other feel secure**

It means that the husband should remind his wife that he is her sole partner who would be loyal to her throughout her life whatever situation may arise. The same applies to the wife. One should not threaten one's life partner regarding the possibility of divorce. This is sign of foolishness.

### **Appreciating each other's virtues**

In this matter, Satan tries his best to prevent a marriage from becoming happier. Let us take the example of a feast. Suppose a man invites few people for lunch or dinner. His wife puts in so much effort to prepare the food in the best possible manner as a result of which the guests enjoy it a lot. Here an intelligent man should appreciate his wife to the fullest and make her feel that she actually did a great job. However, unfortunately, this is usually not the case at all. In matters of appreciation, why do people become so ungenerous? This is where Satan controls the tongue of people. The same applies to women whose husbands are spending on them (e.g. clothes, shoes, jewelry etc). They should praise their husbands openly. This will strengthen their relationship.

### **Respecting each other's parents**

One's father-in-law and mother-in-law are like father and mother. Respecting each other's parents will increase the love in a marriage. For a man, his wife's parents deserve reverence. For a wife, her husband's parents deserve reverence.

### **Refrain from mutual shouting**

The habit of raising one's voice on trivial issues is also from Satan. You should refrain from shouting at all costs. The only situation where shouting is allowed is if one's house catches fire.

### **Do not sleep in a state of mutual displeasure**

If there is a conflict within a couple, they should sort it out before sleeping otherwise Satan will grab this opportunity to inject hatred for each other and on the next day, they both will be even more far apart. That is why it is said that “nip the evil in the bud”. Thus a couple should not sleep while in a state of mutual displeasure for one another.

### **Become a source of strength in hard times**

This world cannot become a heaven. Life is a test for the hereafter. Thus adversity is also part of life. In such hard times, one should prove his special worth by being a beacon of moral support for one’s life partner. This is the time when your previous claims of love would be really tested. You should score well in this test.

### **Looking at each other smilingly with happiness is obligatory**

When a couple looks at each other smilingly with happiness, Allah SWT looks at both of them with immense pleasure. These small acts leave a deep impression on the hearts of couples whether young or old.

### **Eat together**

Eating together is also one of the secrets of a happy married life. Furthermore, one should even try to share the plate or put bites in each other’s mouths. This increases the love between one another. Once, this humble servant came across a young man who had just recently started following religion. He had passion for religion but was a bit harsh in his temperament. One day he came to me in a state of anger. When I asked the reason, he told me that his wife did not follow religion at all. When I asked him, did he himself follow all the Sunnah of Holy Prophet SWS? He said, “yes”. When I asked him, had he ever put a bite in his wife’s mouth while eating, he said, “no”. I said, “that is also Sunnah”. I asked him to practice this Sunnah. He was hesitant but agreed. The next day, he came smiling and told me that he had practiced Sunnah on which his wife had asked him in a state of shock as to who had taught him such a habit; he had said that it is the Sunnah. When his wife came to know this, she was so moved that she said that she wanted to learn all the Sunnahs of Prophet SWS so that she would act accordingly. Thus one small deed changed her life.

### **Giving a gift to each other**

It is mentioned in a hadith that, “give gifts. It will increase love”. This doesn’t only mean giving gifts to relatives or friends but also to your own husband/wife. By this, you can create a big space in the heart of your life-partner.

### **Remain pleasant with one another**

I was reading about a doctor who did his specialization in the ways to cure patients by making them happy. Whenever patients used to go to him, he used to give them only tablets of milk but his real efforts were to make them smile or laugh. The conclusion of his research was that, without any medication, in 90% of patients, their inner metabolism starting functioning properly through feeling happy. Thus they were cured by Allah SWT through happiness.

If diseases can be cured through happiness, then, in a husband-wife relationship, feelings of sadness, depression or loneliness can also be removed by remaining pleasant to one another.

### **Refrain from stubbornness**

In a married life, one should save oneself from becoming a stubborn person. This stubbornness is also from Satan. Satan was the first one who acted stubbornly in front of Allah SWT when he was ordered to prostrate before Adam AS. Thus one should refrain from becoming a disciple of Satan. In marriages, stubbornness on the part of one or both partners can become a source of nuisance.

### **Do not become careless in personal activities**

One of the keys to a happy married life is that one should not be careless in the personal activities of one's partner. For example, the wife wears the Islamic veil and stays in the home. She asks her husband to bring shampoo. Now this shampoo is a personal need. One should never be careless in such activities. Similarly, suppose the husband has an important meeting and has requested his wife to prepare the proper dress at the appropriate time. Now the wife should not delay this at all. Such negligence would create unwanted differences between each other.

### **Take interest in the activities of home**

On one hand, even if the husband is extremely busy in his job, he should take some time out for his home. On the other hand, even if the wife has many servants, she should personally take interest in the activities of home. Laziness in this regard can spoil an otherwise good relationship.

### **Do not leave problems unsolved**

It is a very normal and natural thing that problems can arise when two human beings are living with each other, let alone husband and wife. Unresolved issues or unsolved problems can make a situation far worse than it ought to be. Thus a couple should take immediate measures as delaying the process will aggravate matters.

### **Take out time for recreation**

After every while, a couple should go out for recreation (within the bounds of Shariah); going out does not mean going to markets. One should go to a place where one can relax properly. Women are mostly in their homes. Thus they feel the need of going out. Thus one can take them to a park or garden. Alternatively, if one can afford it, one can go for a trip once a year. Sometimes, one should also host a

feast for one's husband/wife. This will bring joy to both of them. These, although overlooked, are also important parts of life.

### **Retain communication when far apart**

A lot of times it happens that a husband and wife have to be far from each other due to one reason or the other. In today's world of science and technology, there are no distances between people. Thus one should keep communicating on a daily basis while being away from home.

### **A husband should provide money to wife for personal expenditure**

If Allah SWT has provided the husband with a good quantity of sustenance, he should spend it on his children. It is mentioned in a hadith that if a man spends upon his wife and children, Allah SWT will reward him equivalent to a good amount of charity. Scholars of Islam state that a man should give money to his wife according to his economical status. Furthermore, he should not even ask where she spent. He should leave it to her if she utilizes for her personal needs or if she helps some poor or needy. This is the beauty of Shariah.

### **Do not delay in apologizing on a mistake**

As soon as one commits a mistake, he/she should apologize without any hesitation or ego. In apology, there should be no shame or humiliation. In fact this is the mark of respect for both.

### **Do not use bad language**

Controlling one's tongue is a very important factor in retaining a harmonious relationship.

### **Remain happy on lawful income**

A couple should be satisfied with whatever sustenance Allah has provided within the bounds of Shariah. One should mold one's needs according to lawful income. Consequently, Allah will not only give serenity to hearts but also grant obedient children.

### **Mutual discussion should be in gentle words**

Both the tone and the choice of words can make a huge difference in a relationship.

### **Provide a separate home**

It is extremely important that parents should provide a separate home to their children after getting them married. There is a lot of wisdom behind living separately. It saves from a lot of unwanted interference from other people. There is a lot of privacy in a married life and it must be safeguarded.

### **Always remain tidy and well-dressed in front of your spouse**

It has been observed that people beautify and purify themselves while going out and do not care for their cleanliness or appearance while at home. It is mentioned in a hadith that Bani Israel's people did not use tooth-brush due to which their women used to commit adultery. A case was registered in the court of Umar RZA. A woman said that she did not want to live with her husband. Umar RZA said that he would decide their fate on the next day; just before the couple was leaving, Umar RZA saw the extremely shabby appearance of the husband. Umar RZA ordered that man to appear in his court the next day with a good appearance. The next day the man appeared in the court while being well-dressed. Umar RZA asked the woman if she wanted separation from her husband. She was extremely happy with his husband's new condition and she said "no". Thus the matter was resolved right there.

### **Criterion behind fondness should be religiosity not beauty**

It is usually the case that women are extremely fit when they get married but lose their smartness after bearing children. At that time, a husband should focus on the inner beauty of his wife.

### **Adopt gratitude**

One reason behind an unhappy marriage is that the couples do not give thanks to Allah SWT for whatever bounties are bestowed on them. A lot of times it happens that people are literally drowned in the favors of Allah but never feel thankful to Him. When you see your home, you should say, "Alhamdulillah". When you see your spouse, you should say, "Alhamdulillah". When you see your children, you should say, "Alhamdulillah". Allah SWT increases His favors and bounties on the person who adopts gratitude. That is why it is mentioned in a hadith that when a man is about to enter his home, he should read *ta-ooz, tasmia*, the prescribed prayer and Surah Ikhlāas. He should be smiling and greet his wife (with Islamic salutations). If he does this, Satan will not enter his home. Similarly, the wife should continue to pray:

"O Allah, put love in our hearts and rectify ourselves".

### **Deal with your wife in a beautiful manner**

Allah SWT says:

"Live with your wives in a beautiful manner"

The person who will follow this instruction today will be forgiven tomorrow on the Day of Judgment.

The holy prophet SWS used to care about his wives so much that once during a journey, his wives were seated on a camel. The companion who was riding the camel started hurrying due to which the camel started moving faster. On this the holy prophet SWS said that "on your camel people made of glass are also seated. Take care of their fragility". In our language, his words meant people made of crystal which, in turn, means people whose bodies are, unlike men, sensitive and thus can be easily hurt. Today, husbands cannot even imagine that the Prophet SWS used the word 'crystal' for his wives.

### **Holy Prophet SWS's last advice**

Before departing from this world, the last advice by Prophet SWS was about the rights of wives. He said, "Keep up prayer and fear Allah in the matters of subordinates". In subordinates, the first number belongs to wives. He said that wives are not slaves. They were born free and should be treated with affection.

### **Last words**

One last thing about marriage is that the holy prophet SWS said: the person who treats his subordinates unjustly and negates their rights, on the Day of Judgment, I will be their lawyer and I will grant them their rights. Now imagine that if the Prophet SWS will stand as a lawyer against someone, who will save such a person from the wrath of Allah SWT. Today, husbands should love their wives, and, wives should serve their husbands. The Holy Prophet SWS said:

"If a woman will die in a state when her husband was happy with her, she would enter heaven".

May Allah grant us His beloved abode, heaven; Amen!

**THE REWARD OF HEAVEN ON  
GOOD RELATIONS WITH  
RELATIVES**

It is mentioned in a hadith,

“O my people spread greetings among you, feed the needy, rejoin family ties with those who cut it and when people are asleep, offer *tahajud* prayers in the night so that you may enter heaven”

### **The four foundations of a strong society**

1. It should be known that which person is from which family background. Thus the Quran says: “Your tribes and castes were formed so that you may identify with one another”.
2. To safeguard lineage, the institution of marriage was formed. If two people (man and woman) want to live together, they have to marry one another. By this, the lineage of people is known. The woman is granted security and the dower is apportioned.
3. The third one is patrimony; a woman has rights over the inheritance of her husband. Shariah has allotted portions for the wife and other inheritors as well.
4. Maintaining an extremely good relation with relatives.

### **Islam preaches the message of unity instead of separation**

Islam has emphasized on keeping good relation with relatives. When people live together, misunderstandings and can also arise. In such situations, if everyone becomes obstinate on his demands, then one person would be facing the east and other person would be facing the west. That is why Islam teaches that the superior person among the two will be the one who compromises and, eventually, brings the other person closer to him/her. The Holy Prophet SWS said:

“You join the ties with the person who cuts it off; you forgive the person who afflicts you; you become good to the person who wrongs you”

### **Islam teaches respect for humanity**

How beautiful is the person who follows the above hadith. These are the original teachings of Islam. That is why someone said:

There came many prophets  
In the end, came the leader of prophets  
The last message of God was brought  
Man’s respect for man was taught

### **The differences between robots and humans**

During my student days, once I read a science fiction novel in English. The author stated that scientific and technological advancement will continue to increase till humans will create such robots that would surpass humans in many things. On the Day of Judgment, the scientist will claim in front of Allah SWT that “O Lord, you created humans. I created robots. My robots are superior to humans in many aspects. For example, humans can see in the morning but not at night. There is certain kind of instrumentation due to which robots can see at night. Humans can see till some furlongs. Robots will

have a telescope fitted in their eyes due to which they will be able to see thousands of miles away. Humans can see a certain things of a certain size whereas robots will have microscopes through which they would be able to view bacteria etc. A human being can speak few languages whereas robots will have a tape inside of them due to which they would be able to comprehend and speak all the languages of the world. Humans need rest or sleep after certain hours of work. Robots will work 24 hours/day. Humans can listen only within a certain range of frequency. Robots will have a higher range of frequency. Thus what I mean to say is that the features of robots will be better than humans” On hearing this, Allah SWT will ask him to show few robots. The scientist will present few robots and turn them on. The robots will start performing different functions. At this time, Allah SWT, due to His power, will create a fault inside one robot due to which its shaft will be broken. This robot will remain standing whereas the other robots will be moving. Allah SWT will say to the scientist, “look at the condition of your robot”. After a while, Allah SWT will present few humans who will be walking in a normal manner. Then, due to Allah’s will, one human will develop sheer pain in his stomach due to which he would start shouting. On this the other humans will immediately run to him, inquire about his condition, sympathize with him, help him and look after him. On this, Allah SWT will say to the scientist, “when your robot developed a defect, the other robots did not care about him at all and continued to do whatever they were doing whereas when my human was ill, the other humans came to help him. On this the scientist will accept the fact and say that “O Allah, your humans are superior to my robots”.

The purpose behind narrating this was to tell that there is no difference between machines and humans devoid of feelings/emotions. The humanism of man is that he should have affection for each other.

### **Islam teaches compassion**

It is mentioned in a hadith: “You show compassion towards those on earth; the One who is in the heavens will show compassion towards you”.

Jareer RZA narrates that the holy prophet SWS said: “Allah SWT does not have mercy for that person who does not have mercy for other people”.

“The one who does not show compassion for the younger ones, does not show respect for the elder ones is not one of us”.

“ Respect for the one whose hair become white in a state of Islam is equivalent to respect for Allah”.

What more can people of old age demand than the hadith quoted above.

The holy prophet SWS said, “the one devoid of compassion is not treated with compassion”.

And at another instance: “the entire creation is the family of Allah. The one who is best with the family of Allah is most superior in the sight of Allah”.

We should be a good citizen of the society and a good member of the family. We should try to benefit others even if it means bearing a loss for our own selves.

Once the holy prophet SWS was walking across a market. On seeing the shopkeepers, he said, “you should weigh in such a way that you should give the heavier one to others” meaning that they should win the hearts of their customers.

According to one hadith, if we spend on a relative who opposes us, we would earn the reward of the best charity.

### **The 3 rewards on maintaining good relations with relatives according to a hadith**

#### 1. Vast sustenance

Today many people are worried about their sustenance and ask for prayers. The best way to increase sustenance is developing good relations with relatives.

#### 2. Increase in age

Besides its literal meaning, increase in age can also mean better health in which case, the efficient time of a person would increase and he/she would be free from any sort of dependence on people. This is called *barakah* in life.

#### 3. Protection from bad death

Every believer wishes to avoid bad death. This is also achieved by the same formula i.e developing good relations with relatives.

### **What are bad relations with relatives?**

On the contrary, cutting off ties with relatives is extremely disliked by Allah SWT. According to Shariah, one should at least maintain that level of bond in which one not only greets the other person in the Islamic way but also engages in some sort of conversation.

### **The punishment on cutting of ties with relatives**

According to a hadith, there are some sins that are so disliked by Allah SWT that their punishment will take place not only in the hereafter but also in this world. They are:

Rebellion against a pious leader

Disobedience to parents

Cutting off ties with relatives

### **Deprivation from heaven**

It is mentioned in a hadith:

“On the Day of judgment, the person who cuts off ties with relatives will not enter heaven”.

In another hadith, it is mentioned that on the “Night of Power” (laylatul qadr), Allah SWT forgives big sins but there are some people who are not forgiven even on that night. One such person is he/she who cuts off ties with relatives.

### **Deprivation from Allah’s mercy**

Once the holy prophet SWS said that the one who cuts off ties with his relatives should not sit in his gathering. One companion stood up and said that he was displeased with his aunt (mother’s sister) to the extent that he did not used to speak with her. The Prophet SWS told him to go to his aunt and rejoin ties with her. The companion did exactly the same. On his return, the Prophet SWS said that he had done so because Allah SWT does not show mercy to the gathering which includes a person who has cut off ties with relatives. Thus we can imagine how far from Allah’s mercy would be such a person.

### **Deprivation from Allah’s love**

In another hadith, it is mentioned that, unlike the rest of the humanity, the deeds of the person who cuts off ties with relatives are not brought in front of Allah SWT on Friday.

### **The benefits of maintaining good relations with relatives according to hadith**

Love between one another increases.

Satan is displeased

Allah is pleased

Increase and *barakah* in wealth

Increase in age

The souls of their dead parents become happy.

In hard times, relatives support them

People pray for them after death

Protection from bad death

Protection from afflictions and hardships

Forgiveness of sins and acceptance of good deeds

Descend of Allah’s mercy on the entire nation

### **Allah's forgiveness on forgiving one's wife**

Hazrat Thanvi RHT narrated an anecdote. There was a man whose wife committed a serious mistake. If he wanted he could have given her some punishment but on seeing that the wife was feeling embarrassed and guilty, he forgave her for the pleasure of Allah SWT. After a certain period of time, he died. Someone saw him in his dream. When the man was asked as to what happened to him after death, he said that when he was presented before Allah, Allah said to him, "on that occasion you forgave your wife for my pleasure. Today I forgive you for my pleasure".

We will get to know in the next life that how much reward is affiliated with the good way in which we treated other people in this life. Sadly, what often happens is that due to stubbornness, anger and ego, the differences between people are not resolved. People make a fuss about small things. The person from whose vile other people are not safe is a highly unwanted person; he is like an animal without horns. We should live like true human beings; we should have beautiful character and our ties with others should remain intact.

### **The method of maintaining good relations with relatives**

Where you have already tried to do so many other deeds, you should show your best character to your relatives. This includes greeting with Islamic salutations, inquiring about how they are, helping if they are in need, visiting if they are sick. It obviously does not mean being with them all the time. Where personalities complement each other in a religious way, friendship should be formed with relatives.

However if you disconnect from someone due to his/her evil, then it is totally allowed by Shariah.

We utter the following words everyday in Salah.

"O Allah, we separate ourselves from the person who is involved in your disobedience".

But if someone is a Muslim, it is not allowed to remain disconnected for more than 3 days. Thus wisdom is required on the part of the believer. If you have sincerely apologized to someone but that person is not willing to forgive you, then you are not the culprit anymore.

### **Allah SWT joins the ties with the person who is good to his relatives**

The holy prophet SWS said that Allah joins the ties with the person who joins the ties with his relatives. This is such a big reward from Allah SWT.

### **The dream of Ibrahim Bin Adham RHT**

Ibrahim Bin Adham RHT was a king. One night he saw in a dream that there was an angel writing something on a piece of paper. He asked the angel as to who was he. The angel replied that he was the angel of Allah and he was writing the names of the people who had love for Allah. He asked whether his name was in the list or not. He was told that his name was not in the list. Ibrahim Bin Adham RHT told the angel to write his name in the list of people who love the creation of Allah for Allah's sake. The angel agreed and the dream was over.

After some time, he again saw a dream in which the same angel was making a list. The angel told him that he was making a list of those people who were loved by Allah. When he saw the list, he saw his name on the top of that list. Thus if we love people for the sake of Allah, Allah will love us in return.

It is mentioned in a hadith that compassion is the branch of Allah's mercy. Allah joins the ties with the one who joins the ties with it. Allah cuts off ties with the one who cuts off ties with it.

### **One important sign of Judgment Day**

According to a hadith, one of the signs of the Day of Judgment is that it will be a common practice to cut off ties with relatives. If you look around yourself, you will see this prevalent today. There is so much lack of sincerity and love between family members. That is why there is no barakah in people's lives.

### **The saying of Umar Bin Abdul Azeez RHT**

Umar Bin Abdul Azeez RHT used to say that there are two instances in the Quran where the person who cuts off ties with family relatives is cursed. One was in Surah Raad; the other was in Surah Muhammad.

# **THE REWARD OF HEAVEN ON BEAUTIFUL CHARACTER**

### **The hadith that should provoke fear in women**

Hazrat Ibn-e-Abbas RZA narrates that the holy prophet SWS said that:

“Out of 99 women, one will go to heaven and 98 will go to hell”.

Now the question arises as to why so many women will go to hell?

### **The deeds that lead women to hell:**

#### **The indulgence in amulet/talisman:**

Most women have a very strong belief in magic. People associated with such activities are called as *amil* most of which are professionals and are extremely wicked. They make women believe in false things e.g. women start believing that their close family members have done something due to which everything is happening in the wrong manner. Thus it leads to hatred, suspicion and cutting off ties with people. Their belief is so strong in such things that it seems as if, besides Allah SWT, there is someone else also running the affairs from above. They believe that their source of income has been blocked by someone. How ignorant is this belief. If Allah SWT wants to give sustenance to someone but the whole world is against that person, the sustenance will reach that person. The vice-versa is also true. The kind of false belief as mentioned earlier leads to faith being ruined. Thus women should stop going to any *amil*. In times of adversity, they should do *istighfaar* and repentance. Their belief should be that only Allah SWT can change their circumstances.

#### **Developing spite against someone**

The second reason is that although in a certain situation they are not sure about what happened and why, they develop feelings of ill will for a family member or relative. Once a woman called me and told me about her state of affairs and said that someone must have done something. On this I said “yes your *nafs* (lower-self) must have done something wrong”. Then I quoted the Quranic verse (Surah Shura):

“These hardships that fall upon you; they are a consequence of what your own hands have earned”.

On this she realized that she had herself created false enemies in her mind whereas her real enemy was insider herself.

#### **Deeds that fall in the category of shirk (polytheism)**

When women visit tombs/shrines of pious ancestors, they have a tendency to perform actions which fall in the category of *shirk* (polytheism). On visiting such sacred places, they should focus only on praying to Allah SWT. They should not indulge in any other activity.

#### **Cursing and Ingratitude**

The holy prophet SWS was asked why so many women will go to hell? He told two reasons; one is that they curse a lot. And the other reason is that they are ungrateful to their husbands.

### **Too much reliance on feelings and emotions**

According to a hadith, women are labeled as lower in intellect. What does this mean? This does not mean they have a low IQ level. This does not mean that they are foolish or stupid. This does not mean that they are not brilliant during their student life. This does not mean they are incompetent in their professions. This demands explanation. This means that their feelings and emotions dominate their minds. They are governed by passion. Their feelings of love or hatred are intense. This intensity rules their thoughts. That is why they are not good in decision-making. I have myself observed this many times. That is why Shariah has granted the right of divorce to men. If this was not the case, then there would have been many divorces in a single day.

### **Hastiness in quarrelling**

It has been observed many times that women are hasty when it comes to quarrelling. This is fully in contradiction with the temperament of Shariah and thus can make a big issue out of a small one. This leads many women to hell.

### **Missing *Salah* (Prayer)**

It has been observed that it is a common practice among woman to miss the morning *Salah (fajar)*. Most women are asleep at that time and thus are involved in a big sin.

### **Heedlessness in alms-giving (*Zakat*)**

The Quran repeatedly commands the believers to give *Zakat*. However, on the contrary, many women are neglectful in this regard. This can ruin the life of hereafter.

### **Being neglectful in obligatory bath**

Another reason is being neglectful in obligatory bath. Whenever, according to Shariah, bath is obligatory on women, it should not be delayed at all. Furthermore, many women are not knowledgeable about the matters related to menstrual cycles and purity. Thus, they do not even know whether they are in a state of purity or impurity. This should be learnt as soon as a girl reaches the age of puberty.

### **Make-up that is a hindrance in ablution**

Some women are of the habit that they do a certain kind of make-up which negates the conditions of ablution or bath. This includes nail polish, lip-stick etc.

### **Not taking care of veil**

One significant aspect is lack of the practice of observing the Islamic veil. It should be noted that this does not only apply to covering oneself properly in front of strangers but also in front of *na-mehrem* relatives or family members. Similarly, all the rules of Shariah apply equally on the occasion of marriage functions. Women should learn these principles and put them into practice.

### **Not taking care of purity/impurity**

This relates to women with small children. While washing the impurity of their children, women should ensure that no droplet of impurity falls on them.

### **Backbiting and lying**

It has been observed many times that when few women sit together, they start backbiting about someone. Backbiting is a sin that is even worse than adultery and thus a highway to hell.

### **Hurting each other**

We have already mentioned how much importance Shariah gives to the respect for a human being especially a believer. Thus hurting each other is not a small sin in the sight of Allah SWT.

### **Miserliness in (*Sadqah*) charity**

Many women do not have a big heart when it comes to giving away money in charity. Charity is a shortcut to heaven.

### **Not apologizing on mistakes**

When it comes to true believers, they are never shy in apologizing on their mistakes because they realize how tough will be the accountability on the Day of Judgment.

### **Uttering words of *Kufr* (Disbelief)**

When some women become angry, they utter such sentences that ruin their state of *iman* (faith). They start complaining against Allah SWT as if He is their husband, not realizing that Allah SWT is beyond all accountability and critique. One cannot blame Allah SWT for the misdeeds of people.

### **Lack of reverence for Sunnah**

Instead of the prevalent culture and customs, a Muslim woman should have deep respect for the Sunnah of Holy Prophet SWS. Any sort of negligence in this regard is a very serious matter.

### **Not taking care of lawful and unlawful**

One of the many reasons (as already under discussion) is lack of care for lawful and unlawful. Most women are not the bread earners of their family. Their husbands support them. Thus they are not bothered about how the money comes. They just want money at any cost. This leads to lack of awareness of the lawfulness of source of income.

### **Pride and Narcissism**

There can be many reasons behind pride and narcissism e.g. beauty, education, family, wealth etc. Whatever may be the reason, the holy prophet SWS said, "One of the things that can be disastrous for someone is also his pride". Pride is a highway to hell.

### **Living with husband despite divorce**

Often it happens that a husband, in a state of anger, utters words which lead to divorce according to Shariah and yet, due to ignorance, the couple lives together and thus indulges in sinfulness. That is why, to the amazement of many people, it is mentioned in a hadith that one of the signs of the Day of Judgment is that men would commit adultery with their own wives.

### **Lack of *ikhlaas* (correct intention) behind deeds**

There are many women who are involved in good deeds but their intention is not seeking Allah's pleasure but it is being bothered about what people would say. Thus they are deprived of both the blessings and the reward of the good deeds. It is the basic aim of *tasawwuf* (Islamic spirituality) to rectify the intentions behind each and every deed.

### **Conclusion: Rectify your flaws**

Thus the hadith that started this lengthy discussion should be an eye opener for women. They should fear the warning given by holy prophet SWS. They should see where they lack in terms of religiosity. Allah's door of forgiveness is always open. They just have to knock it with the act of repentance and he will forgive all their previous sins. They should not delay it by a single moment. They should not be deceived by Satan into thinking that they cannot enter heaven. They should know that such kind of pessimism is also from Satan. A believer is optimistic about the mercy of Allah SWT.

### **The Reward of Heaven on Beautiful Character**

#### **First Anecdote**

Abu Hurairah RZA narrates that the holy prophet SWS said that, "a man saw a dog which was licking the wet soil due to intense thirst. On seeing that, the man went to fetch water and used his shoe as a container to pour water and brought it to the dog. The dog drank water and its thirst was quenched. On this, Allah granted heaven to the man". If a man can attain heaven on feeding a thirsty animal, how much reward Allah will give on feeding a thirsty human being? How much reward is attached with helping any person in the hour of need?

#### **Second Anecdote**

It is mentioned in a hadith (Sahih Bukhari) that there was a woman of Bani Israel who was adulterous and yet was forgiven by Allah SWT. How? Once she was walking across a well of water where she saw a dog with its tongue stretching out with thirst. It seemed as if it was so thirsty that it would die. The woman took out her shawl, tied her shoe with it, lowered it in the well and took out some water to feed the dog. On this act, Allah SWT was so pleased that He forgave all her sins.

### **Third Anecdote**

According to Sahih Muslim, Abu Hurairah RZA narrates that once a man was walking across a road where he saw the branch of a tree spread out to such an extent that it was creating trouble for the passengers. He cut it with the intention that it would create comfort for people. On this small act, he was granted heaven.

### **What is beautiful character?**

Thus after reading the above three ahadith, we are in a position to understand what is beautiful character. It is being too full of the milk of human kindness. Thus we should possess this intention in our heart that we would never ever hurt anyone.

### **Beautiful character in the light of ahadith**

Listen attentively to the sayings of the holy prophet SWS.

“A Muslim is the religious brother of a Muslim. (A Muslim woman is the religious sister of a Muslim woman). He does not do injustice to him. He does not leave him in the hands of an enemy. The person who is with him in the hour of need, Allah is with him in the hour of need”.

“The person who removes the grief of someone; Allah will remove one of his grieves on the Day of Judgment”.

“The person who hides the body or faults of someone, Allah will hide his faults on the Day of Judgment”.

Hiding the body means giving clothes; hiding the faults mean saving one from public insult. How beautiful is the teaching of religion.

“Allah is busy in helping someone till that person is busy in helping his brother”.

It is mentioned in a hadith, “Undoubtedly, there are some people who are created only to fulfill the needs of others. People turn towards them in their hour of need. These people will be free from the wrath of Allah”

This hadith tells us how much importance Allah SWT attaches to helping others. Service to mankind is indeed a highway to heaven.

It is mentioned in another hadith, “Indeed, there are some people of Allah who are purely for the benefit of others. As long as they spend on others, Allah keeps granting them bounties in abundance. When they stop spending on others, Allah will take away their bounties and give them to someone else”.

It is mentioned in a hadith, “if a person goes out to fulfill his brother’s need; this act is superior than ten years of *itikaaf* (spiritual retreat)”. How much reward is one day of *itikaaf* (spiritual retreat)?

“If a person spends one day in *itikaaf* for the pleasure of Allah, there will be a distance between him and hell as big as three trenches where every trench is as big as the distance between one end of the earth and other end”.

Thus we can imagine the reward on ten years of *itikaaf*.

It is mentioned in a hadith, “the person who tries to fulfill the need of a Muslim brother till he fulfills it, Allah will grant him a shadow of 75000 angels who will, from morning till evening and from evening till morning, seek mercy for that person and pray for him. Furthermore, on every step that he walks, one sin will be forgiven and his status in heaven will increase by one step”.

In another hadith, it is mentioned that, “the person who tries to fulfill the need of a Muslim brother, on every step Allah will reward him with 70 virtues and forgive 70 sins till he comes back from where he started. If he is successful in his efforts, he will be purified from his sins as if he is a newly born. If he dies during his efforts, he will enter heaven without accountability”.

This was narrated by Allama Sayuti RHT. Another hadith is:

“The person who reaches a man in charge for a noble cause or to remove the hardship of a Muslim brother; on the Day of Judgment, Allah will help him in crossing the *pul-e-siraat* when people will find it extremely difficult to cross it”. This was narrated by Tibrani

Another hadith is:

“The most superior deed is pleasing a true believer or hiding his faults or feeding the hungry or fulfilling his need”. This was narrated by Tibrani.

### **The significance of pleasing a true believer**

It is mentioned in a hadith: “In the sight of Allah, the most liked deed after the obligatory acts is pleasing a Muslim”. This was narrated by Tibrani.

It is mentioned in a hadith: “When a person pleases a true believer, Allah creates one angel which worships Allah and proclaims the oneness of Allah. When that person goes into the grave, that happiness comes in front of him and asks him, “do you recognize me?” the person asks, “who r you?”. The happiness replies that “I am that happiness which you entered into someone’s heart. Today I will convert your fear into love. I will become your argument. I will make you steadfast on *kalma-e-shahadat*. On the Day of Judgment, I will be with you. I will appeal to Allah on your behalf. I will show you your destination in heaven”.

Thus one can imagine the huge reward for a woman who pleases her husband, parents, siblings, children and parents-in-law.

The Holy Prophet SWS was asked about the reason due to which most people will enter heaven. A companion asked this beautiful question. The Holy Prophet SWS said, “Fear of Allah and good character”. Then he was asked about the reason due to which most people will go to hell. He said, “due

to mouth and sexual organ". As far as mouth is concerned, the sins are lying, backbiting, false accusations or hurting someone. As far as sexual organ is concerned, it obviously means sins related to lack of chastity and purity. This hadith was narrated by Tirimzi, Ibn-e-Habaan and Behqi.

### **A true believer is he who has good character**

It is mentioned in a hadith:

"According to faith, the most complete believer is he who has the best character and who is kindest to his own family". This was narrated by Tirimzi and Hakim.

Another hadith is:

"Undoubtedly, a man, due to his excellent character, would attain a very high rank in the hereafter, and, this would increase his reward of worship by many times".

### **Good character – the easiest worship**

It is mentioned in a hadith:

"Shouldn't I tell you about that worship which is easy and light on the body? It is silence and good character".

Another hadith is:

"A person came in front of the holy prophet SWS and asked as to which deed is most superior. The holy prophet SWS said, "good character". Then that person came from the right side and asked the same question. The prophet's reply was the same. Then that person came from left side and asked the same question. The prophet's reply was the same. Then that person came from behind and asked the same question. On this, the prophet turned his head towards him and said, "What has happened to you? Don't you understand that it is good character and good character is that if it is possible you should not be angry." This was narrated by Muhammad Bin Nasr Al-Maruzi

### **Home in heaven**

Listen to this hadith:

"It is my responsibility to grant that person a home in heaven who stops quarrelling despite being on the truth".

"It is my responsibility to grant that person a home in heaven who stops lying although that lying was only jokingly".

Today, Satan has labeled a beautiful name for lying. In Urdu it is known as *bahana* i.e a false excuse.

Another hadith:

“It is my responsibility to grant that person a home in the highest level of heaven who adopts a good character”.

This was narrated by Abu-Daud, Ibn-e-Maaja and Tirimzi.

According to a Hadith-e-Qudsi:

“Undoubtedly, this is that religion which I have selected for myself. Besides generosity and good character, nothing suits it.”

This was narrated by Tibrani.

Another hadith: “Good character melts sins just like water melts ice. Bad character ruins virtues just like vinegar ruins honey”.

It is mentioned in a hadith, “Undoubtedly, Allah is tender and likes tenderness in all things”

This was narrated by Bukhari and Muslim.

“Allah likes tenderness and grants that help which is not affiliated with harshness”.

“Shouldn’t I tell you about that person on whom the fire of hell is unlawful? Listen. It is he who practices tenderness and easiness” This was narrated by Tirimzi.

### **The Reward on forbearance**

“Undoubtedly, the forbearing one will earn the reward of the one who is fasting and the one who prays *tahajud* at night”.

“The person who gets angry and yet controls his temper, Allah SWT will definitely love him”.

“Shouldn’t I tell you something on which the Allah will raise the home in heaven and elevate his status?” The companions said, “yes certainly”. On this the holy prophet SWS said: “The person who treats you with ignorance, you treat him with forbearance; the person who inflicts harm on you, you forgive him; the person who deprives you, you grant him; the person who cuts off ties with you, you rejoin ties with him”. This was narrated by Tibrani.

“He is not the strong one who oppresses others; the strong is he who, at the time of anger, controls himself”.

### **Best charity**

“Undoubtedly, this is also a form of charity that you greet each other (with a smiling face)”. This was narrated by Ibn-e-Abi Adunya.

Showing someone the right way on the road is also a form of charity. Removing a stone, a thorn or a bone from the path for the convenience of passengers is also charity. Inserting water from your drum to your brother’s drum is also charity.

### **Special Reward for those with Beautiful Character**

According to a hadith, there is a special terrace in heaven whose outside is visible from the inside and whose inside is visible from the outside due to its quality of being crystal clear. This terrace is for that person whose speech is good, gives food to others and at night when people are asleep, he stands in tahajud prayer.

# **THE REWARD OF HEAVEN ON ADHERENCE TO SUNNAH**

## **Entry into heaven due to Islamic way of greeting each other**

Abu Hurairah RZA narrates that the holy prophet SWS said:

“You cannot enter heaven without faith and you cannot have faith without having love for each other”.

“Shouldn’t I tell you the deed due to which love for each other will increase?” “It is spreading the Islamic way of greeting each other”.

## **The different ways of greeting each other in different nations**

You must have noted that in different nations, the way of greeting is different. For example in English speaking countries, people say “good morning”. Before the advent of Islam, the Arabs used to say “hiyakallah” which means “may Allah keep you alive”. On some occasions, they used to say which means, “may Allah bless your morning”.

However, all these different ways are not complete. These are partial expressions.

## **Meaning of Assalaam-u-Alaikum**

Its meaning is deep and comprehensive. Scholars have written two meanings. One is that you remain safe from any hardship, grief and worry. The other is that your life, your respect and your wealth may remain in safety from me.

## **Wisdom behind greeting each other**

There are certain benefits of Salaam. This is the invocation of Allah. It is advice for one another. It is supplication for one another. It is also a pact with one another. That is why the inner states of the companions of holy prophet SWS were such that if someone did not say Salaam, they used to get extremely worried as if there was something wrong with the person.

## **Answering Salaam is obligatory**

The Shariah says:

“When someone says Salaam to you, you return it with an even better reply”. Answering Salaam is compulsory besides the occasions when someone is offering his prayers, eating food, reading Quran, giving a lecture on Islam or relieving himself.

## **Salaam is a proof of humility**

According to a hadith, the person who is first in saying Salaam is free from arrogance.

## **What should be said in answer to prayer?**

“Walaikum Asalaam” is the reply to Salaam. But an even better reply is “Walaikum Asalaam Wa Rehmatullah”. If you want to add even more to it, you can say, “Walaikum Asalaam Wa Rehmatullahi Wa Barakatuhu”

## **Salaam is the speech of angels and the dwellers of paradise**

The Quran says that when an angel came to Ibrahim AS,

“When our angels came to him, they said Salaam”.

The Quran also says: “And angels would enter from every door saying: Peace be upon you. This is the reward of your patience. The home of hereafter is much better.

At another instance, Allah SWT says, “There will be neither vulgar talks nor abusing. Their speech will be Salaam Salaam”.

The Quran further says: “Whenever the dwellers of heaven will meet each other they will say Salaam”.

### **Exception**

However, one should not say Salaam to a disbeliever. In that case, one can only inquire about his well-being. But if the disbeliever says Salaam, then the reply is only “Walaikum”.

### **Refraining from Salaam is extremely disliked**

It is extremely disliked by Allah to stop saying Salaam to someone for 3 or more days. In that case, according to a hadith, the offered prayers of such a person are not accepted because it comes under the category of cutting off ties with someone.

### **Salaam on departure as well**

According to Sunnah, Salaam is not only applicable while meeting each other but also equally applicable while parting ways. The Sunnah way of saying goodbye is also Salaam.

### **Adherence to Sunnah**

Anas RZA narrates that the holy prophet SWS said, “the person who loves my Sunnah loves me and the one who loves me will be with me in heaven”.

Sunnah is the habitual method of the holy prophet SWS.

### **What love for Holy Prophet SWS demands**

In everything that we do, we should follow the way of our beloved prophet SWS. This is what true love demands. Since Allah SWT has intense love for Holy Prophet SWS, he loves the person who adopts the Sunnah in everyday life. That is why the Prophet SWS said:

“It is compulsory on you to follow my Sunnah”.

### **The approach towards becoming the beloved of Allah SWT**

The Quran says, “My beloved, say, if you love Allah, follow me, Allah will love you”.

## **Make your habit a form of worship**

Everyone is involved in a lot of activities in their daily lives. For example, we eat at least twice a day. If we eat according to the way of our prophet SWS, even this eating becomes a form of worship. The same applies to all other activities. Thus we can imagine how easy it is to gain the pleasure of Allah SWT according to the simple and beautiful teachings of Islam.

## **Few ahadith**

“The person who clings to my Sunnah in the times of fitnah (when the Ummah would not follow Sunnah), he will earn the reward of hundred martyrs from Allah SWT”.

“I am leaving two things with you. You will never be astray if you cling to these two. One is Allah’s book and the other is my Sunnah”.

## **Sunnah is like Noah’s ship**

Imam Malik RHT says: “Sunnah is like Noah’s ship. The one who lands on it attains salvation and the one who does not reach it is destroyed”.

## **Sunnah safeguards the obligatory acts**

Shaykh Abdul Qadir Jilani said: “It is a sign of virtue to imitate the prophet SWS in letter and spirit”

Hazrat Abdullah Bin Mubarik RHT said: “the person who is lazy in fulfilling the Sunnah is deprived of fulfilling the obligatory acts”.

## **Four rewards on Sunnah**

1. Allah SWT fills the hearts of pious people with love for the person who follows the Sunnah.
2. Allah SWT fills the hearts of impious people with awe for the person who follows the Sunnah.
3. Allah SWT increases the sustenance of the person who follows the Sunnah.
4. Allah SWT grants perseverance to the person who follows the Sunnah.

## **Criterion of Piety**

There was a disciple who stayed with Junaid Baghdadi RHT for ten years. After 10 years, he asked for permission to go to another spiritual master. When asked why, he said he did not ever see any miracle. On this Junaid RHT asked, “did you ever see anything by me which was in contradiction to the Sunnah of holy prophet SWS?” The disciple said, “no”. Junaid RHT said, “what could be a bigger miracle than this”.

## **The companions of holy prophet SWS and adherence to Sunnah**

Ibn-e-Umar RZA was going from Madina to Makkah for performing Umrah. At one point, he stopped his means of transportation. He went to a tree and sat in a position as if he was relieving himself although there was no need of doing that. Then he resumed his journey. When asked why did he do so? He

answered that once he was travelling with the holy prophet SWS and he had relieved himself right there. So he wanted to imitate his beloved prophet SWS.

There was a companion who lived in Habsha. The hairs on his head were curly, small and hard due to which he, sadly, could not make a hairstyle like that of the Prophet SWS. Once he was sitting in front of fire with a piece of steel in his hand. He inserted the steel in the fire to make it hot and then stroked his head with the steel to make a line in the centre of the head. Since the steel was hot, it caused injury on his head. When asked why, he said that he bore the pain of injury only to make a hairstyle similar to that of his beloved prophet SWS.

During his visit to Faras, Hazrat Huzaifa RZA was eating food when suddenly one bite fell on the table cloth. He immediately picked it up and ate it. Someone said to him as to what was he doing as these people of Faras would not like such a behavior. On this Huzaifa RZA said, "Should I leave the Sunnah of my beloved due to these ignorant people?"

### **The religious elders and scholars of Deoband and adherence to Sunnah**

Hazrat Maulana Qasim Nanotwi RHT was a renowned scholar. The Englishmen had ordered for the warrant of arresting him. Thus he disappeared. After three days, people again saw him in the mosque. On this the people said that "you can be caught at any time by the Englishmen". Hazrat Nanotwi RHT replied, "when I reflected on the life of Holy prophet SWS, I found three days of disappearance in the cave of Sor. I acted on this hadith. Now I am back in the public and ready to be arrested any time".

Hazrat Gangohi RHT was also a religious elder. Once there was a rally of Dar-ul-Uloom. There was a huge crowd of people who wanted to meet him. Thus it was difficult to cross them. As a result of this, he arrived a little late for the congregational prayer. After offering his prayers, he sighed and said that, "today, for the first time after 22 years, I missed the *takbir-e-oolah*".

Whenever Hazrat Shaykh-ul-Hind RHT used to see a new fruit, he used to give it to a small child because that was the Sunnah of Prophet SWS. In Dar-ul-Uloom Deoband, Hazrat Madni RHT ordered for the plantation of a tree of *Kaykar* in the garden. People told him that *kaykar* is full of thorns and is not beautiful at all and would not suit the garden at all. On this he replied that "whether it suits the garden or not, I have ordered this because the tree under which the holy prophet SWS took *bayt-e-rizwan* was *Kaykar*. When I would see it, it would remind me of the way of the Prophet SWS". In this garden, Hazrat planted a rose. When asked why, he said that, "I have read that the body of holy prophet SWS used to smell like fresh roses".

Father of Hazrat Shaykh-ul-Hadith Zakria RHT, Maulana Yahya RHT used to say that if someone relieves himself in the way of Sunnah, it would give him more reward than non-obligatory worship that is not in accordance with Sunnah.

## **Acceptance or Rejection**

On the Day of Judgment, only those deeds will be accepted by Allah SWT which will resemble that of the Holy Prophet SWS. A man may have a mountain of virtues but if they have no resemblance with the life of holy prophet SWS, he will be rejected. Thus the criterion is Sunnah.

## **Reward on Resemblance**

When Pharaoh said to Musa AS that he would invite the magicians for a contest, Musa AS agreed. The custom of such contests was that both competitors would appear in the same attire. The officers told Musa AS to wear the dress of magicians. When Musa AS did not agree, the magicians were ordered to wear the attire similar to Musa AS. Allah SWT granted victory to Musa AS due to which the magicians accepted the religion of Musa AS. Pharaoh punished them severely but they passed the test. Musa AS was baffled. At the mountain of Toor, he asked Allah SWT about the fact that although he was sent to Pharaoh but it was the magicians, instead, who were granted guidance. On this, Allah SWT said, "O my beloved Musa, when I was about to decide on granting guidance to people, my mercy wanted to give it first to the ones who had resemblance with my prophet. Since the dress of the magicians was similar to you, I granted them guidance". Thus we can imagine how much love Allah will have for that person who today has any sort of resemblance with His beloved last prophet SWS.

## **The acceptance in the sight of holy prophet SWS on adherence to Sunnah**

Hazrat Shah Wali Ullah Muhadith Dehlwi RHT said that: After pilgrimage, I went to Madina. I visited roza-e-aqdas to say Salaam to the holy prophet SWS. I saw that when a person who had adhered to the Sunnah would say Salaam, rays of light would be emitted from the heart of holy prophet SWS and enlighten the heart of that person.

## **Preaching adherence to Sunnah in your homes**

Thus you should preach about the adherence to Sunnah in your homes. You should make your family members lovers of Sunnah. If your home becomes a garden of Sunnah, it would grant you an eternal home in paradise. Thus you should learn how to follow the Sunnah.

Today, we are living in strange times when practice of the Sunnah of holy prophet SWS has become rare and infrequent. If a young man grows beard on his face, his mother starts opposing him. She insists that he should shave it. This is because she does not know how much reward is affiliated with Sunnah. If she would have known it, she would have been extremely happy.

In our madressa, a female student completed her studies. Her father was affluent. Many people offered their sons in marriage. Her father accepted one proposal. Her father said to her, "I have selected such a man for you who is extremely wealthy and would give you gold and silver". On this, she said, "I don't need gold and silver. I need a man who follows the Sunnah of our beloved prophet SWS". Thus women who acquire the knowledge of religion know the true value of Sunnah – they are ready to do anything for it.

### **Imam Rabbaani Mujaddid Alf Sani RHT and his adherence to Sunnah**

When Imam Rabbaani Mujaddid Alf Sani RHT was nearing his death, he said to someone, "I have lived my whole life while adhering to each and every Sunnah but there is one deed that I couldn't do. When Sayyidina Hussain RZA was a child, he once urinated in the lap of the holy prophet SWS. I could not imitate this act because I do not have a nephew. I have got my daughter married. If she gives birth to a son, the son should be brought to sit on my grave till he urinates on it so that I may acquire imitation in this regard as well".

### **A thought-provoking vision of a pious man**

There was a religious scholar who recited the *durood-shareef* 10 million times. Once he had a vision of the holy prophet SWS. He saw in his dream that there were scars on the chest of the holy prophet SWS. He asked the prophet, "Why are there scars on your chest? Have these been inflicted by the enemies of Islam?" The prophet SWS replied, "No, the disbelievers are enemies, why should I complain about them? These wounds are the result of the deeds of my young believers. Whenever they act in contradiction to my Sunnah, a wound is inflicted on my chest."

### **The displeasure of holy prophet SWS**

We should think about the fact that how many acts we do in our homes that are in contradiction to the Sunnah. It is indeed strange that if a child breaks a bulb of only 100 rupees, he is slapped across his face. But the same parents do not say anything to the child if he breaks the Sunnah. Is the Sunnah not even worth 100 rupees in our eyes? On the occasion of marriage, women make up with all those people who were earlier not on good terms with them. Thus, out of happiness, they please everyone. However, by adopting all the practices that were in contradiction to Sunnah, they displease the holy prophet SWS. On the Day of Judgment, how can they expect that the holy prophet SWS will intercede on their behalf? And how can they attain salvation without his intercession? He used to cry for his Ummah during *tahajud* prayers. If, on the Day of Judgment, he asks the question as to what value did we give to his tears, what would be our answer? If he says to us that when the disbelievers were welcoming the whole world to adopt their ways of life, what effort did we put to welcome people to adopt his ways, what would be our answer?

May Allah make us true lovers of Sunnah in both appearance and reality – Ameen!

# **THE REWARD OF HEAVEN ON CHASTITY AND PURITY**

## **Chastity – a means towards heaven**

Abu Hurairah RZA narrates that the holy prophet SWS said: “Chastity is part of faith and faith is a means towards heaven”. In another hadith, it is mentioned that if a woman tries to catch the attention of a man but the man, out of fear of Allah, is not seduced, Allah SWT will grant him the shadow of Throne on the Day of Judgment.

### **The importance of chastity**

It is mentioned in the Quran, “Do not even go near to adultery. It is vulgarity and a bad deed”.

The purpose of life of a true believer is the preparation for hereafter. The aim of a disbeliever’s life is the attainment of pleasures. Thus the religion of Islam admires the trait of chastity. That is why it is mentioned in a hadith, “Chastity is a department of faith”.

And again, “when you lose chastity, you may do whatever you like”.

And again, “The one who has no dignity has no faith”.

And again “I swear by Allah, I am the most dignified and Allah is even more dignified than me”.

“Holy prophet SWS had even more chastity than virgin girls”.

### **The teachings of chastity in Islam**

#### **Lowering Gaze**

The Quran says, “Say to the believers that they should lower their gaze and protect their respect”.

The commentators of Quran say that taking care of one’s sight is the first step towards chastity. The person who will be cautious in this regard, he will inevitably take care of his respect as well and the vice versa is also true. That is why Allah SWT made the eyelid small so that it can be closed immediately on seeing a *na-mehrem*.

#### **Women should stay in their houses**

The Quran says to the women, “you stay in your houses”. Thus women should take care of the affairs of houses. If there is an obligation to go outside, there should be a *mehrem* with them and they should be properly covered.

#### **The order to observe veil**

If the need to take/give anything from/to men arises, the Quran says to the women:

“You should ask from behind a veil. This is better for the purity of your hearts and the hearts of those men”.

Thus Islam has asked women to hide themselves from *na-mehrem*. Perhaps an example would elucidate it. If a man has 10,000 dollars inside his pocket, he would hide it from “pocket-thieves”. If there is a

home in which there are 50,000 dollars, the owner would protect it from all sorts of robbers. Similarly, a woman has the precious possession of respect, dignity, chastity and honor. That is why, Shariah asked her to hide and protect herself from *na-mehrem* men.

There was a man who opposed the concept of veiling; he used to say that he could not understand the logic behind it. One day, he bought meat from market. He hid the meat in a shopper bag. Someone asked him, "why are you hiding it?" He replied that otherwise the crows and birds would eat it. On this the questioner said, "you are so bothered about the 1kg meat you just bought. What about the 70kg meat, your wife who goes out unveiled? It was then that the man understood that a precious thing is kept hidden.

Women should look deep inside their hearts. They have a jewelry box in which they have all the precious ornaments. Do they ever put it in the drawing room in front of everyone? They know it for sure that as soon as a poor servant would see it, it would entice him/her to steal it. If expensive items are kept hidden because of their value, what about a Muslim woman whose worth is far higher than anything?

### **Talking with a *na-mehrem***

If a woman is required to talk to a *na-mehrem*, the Quran says:

"Do not speak in a soft tone as the one who has a sickness in his heart would feel tempted and you speak strictly with them"

### **Principles of Chastity**

Women should not leave their homes without observing veil.

While walking they should not walk in the centre of the path. They should walk on the sideways and their style of walking should be as decent as possible.

They should not wear a perfume whose scent spreads here and there.

Some women wear such type of clothing that the shape of each and every part of their body is visible. In a hadith it is mentioned that on the Day of Judgment, such women would be considered as naked. Thus an unveiled woman would be thrown in hell in a naked condition.

According to a hadith, till the time an unveiled woman returns back to her home, she is cursed by the angels.

If there are *na-mehrem* people in the house, she should observe veil while interacting with them. Greater piety is that if the *mehrem* are sinful people, she should be careful with them as well.

Avoid such kind of work which forces you to be unveiled.

Shariah says that women should not keep their hair at such a place where a *na-mehrem* can see them.

Women should not eat from such a container which has been used by a *na-mehrem*.

Shariah prohibited music because according to a hadith:

“Music breeds the desire for adultery in the same way as rain breeds greenness in the land”

Married women are instructed not to share with anyone the things about their husband which are related to privacy.

Shariah says that as soon as a prospective husband is discovered, there should be no delay in marriage.

### **Islam safeguards women’s rights**

If we go into the depth of Shariah’s teachings, we would realize why there are so many restrictions. It is because Shariah always safeguards the weak. Women have always been favored by Shariah so that no one takes undue advantage of them. Men have been ordered that if they want to bring any woman closer to them, it has to be through the institution of marriage. Shariah ensures that women are never without any supporting hand. That is why, throughout their lives, they are never instructed to earn for themselves. As a daughter, it is the responsibility of father to earn. As a sister, it is the responsibility of brother to earn. As a wife, it is the responsibility of husband to earn. As a mother, it is the responsibility of son to earn. This is the beauty of Islam.

### **Women in Europe**

In the society devoid of the law of marriage, women are left in an extremely sorry state of affairs. Now the concept of marriage is slowly and gradually being erased. It is because the rate of divorce is about 90%. Now the practice of living together is very common due to which there is no sense of security. Once I got an opportunity to deliver a lecture at a college in Europe. I was asked this question as to why does Islam permit 4 marriages at a time? On this I asked him the counter question that in his society, with how many women, a man engages in physical relationship before marriage? He replied, “not less than 100”. Now imagine that in such a society how much worth a woman would possess.

### **Few anecdotes**

There was an engineer who came from his country to Pakistan. Someone asked him that, “one month has passed. How is your wife?” With a smile, he replied, “women are like buses; if you miss one, take another one”. Once I got an opportunity to work with a European Engineer. His age was 52. During a conversation, I asked him about marriage on which he told me that he had not yet married. When I asked him why, his reply was that, “If you can find milk in the market, you don’t need to have a cow in your house”. We can imagine the condition of women where the men have such a psyche.

### **The condition of women in 35 years**

Thus, in the society of disbelievers, women have a lot of admirers till the age of 30 but these admirers are there only to take advantage of their bodies. After that, these admirers lose interest in those women because they have younger women at their disposal. I have lived for few years in the West. I have reached this conclusion that after the age of 35, women are used like a tissue paper and then thrown in

the dustbin. No one is ready to take their responsibility. Such women have to live an unbearably tough life. They have to earn their livelihood; they have to take care of their children; they have to buy the grocery; they have to live alone as well. If they are unwell, no one is there to take care of them. When their children grow up, they too leave them. That is why there are old houses in the West. It is indeed a tragic state of affairs.

### **A psychological patient from the West**

Once, during my visit to USA, I came across a woman. She asked me if I was a Muslim on which I replied in the affirmative. She further asked, "Is it true that Muslims are very steadfast in keeping their promises?" I said, "Yes". She said, "Can you promise me something?" I said, "What is it?" She said, "I live completely alone in my home. I have 3 children but all of them grew up and left me. My husband also left me long ago. Thus I have become a psychological patient due to extreme loneliness. You promise me that every day you will call me for just one minute and ask me about how I am". We can imagine how desperate that woman was to speak to someone. Thus their family structure has been totally disrupted.

### **A strange case**

A woman filed a case against her son who lived with her. He had a dog to which he gave 3 hours daily but he did not give even 5 minutes to his mother. The court, according to local law, decided that since the son was above 16, it was not his responsibility to take care of his mother. On the other hand, since he had a dog, it was his responsibility to take care of the dog. Thus in this society, a mother is less honorable than a dog.

### **The worth of a woman in Islam**

There are, thus, very strong reasons behind why Shariah stresses so much on chastity. If someone wants to be close to a woman, he has to take care of her responsibilities. In our society, a woman's worth increases with age. That is why Shariah says:

"Heaven lies beneath the feet of mothers"

Sons and daughters, both young and grown-ups, are instructed to serve their mothers till their death. That is why it is said, "Mother's prayer is heaven's air".

### **The responsibility of a woman in Islam**

Thus women should whole-heartedly accept and follow the teachings of Islam as they are for their own benefits. It should be noted that in the Quran when Allah SWT speaks about the punishment for theft, He mentions, firstly, the man and, secondly, the woman. But when He talks about the punishment for adultery, it first mentions woman and then the man. It is because it is totally against the chastity of women to be indulged in such an unthinkable crime.

### **The strategy of disbelievers**

When the disbelievers saw that the family structure in Muslims is very strong and that the women are treated in a VIP manner in their old age, they started devising different ways to alter these conditions. They said that women should leave their homes and they based their agenda on the argument that they want to make women stand shoulder to shoulder with men. Although it initially seemed to be an attractive notion in theory but in practice all the important designations were given to men whereas women's roles were confined to those that are affiliated with serving men. Thus practically, women were only further degraded.

### **The use of technology in spreading vulgarity**

When there was only radio, people used to think that it was a source of indecency.

Then came tape recorder; the problem with it was that one could repeatedly listen to something whenever he wanted to.

Then arrived television; the problem with it was that one could see a *na-mehrem* on the screen.

Then arrived VCR through which one could see all sorts of films.

Then arrived computers and internet; with it, indecency reached a higher level because girls could exchange any sort of communication through emails and chatting.

Then video conferencing was introduced on the internet through which vulgarity reached an even higher level.

Now, today, Satan has a tool through which he has created havoc for the spirituality of youth – and that is cell-phone. I call it as hell-phone because it can lead many people to hell. It is small; it is cheap and it has all the features one can think of to spread maximum vulgarity.

It is mentioned in a hadith, “the person who loves due to Allah and hates due to Allah completes his faith”.

Thus, I have hatred for cell-phone only due to Allah SWT's pleasure.

### **The reason why cell-phone can be considered unlawful**

I want that the scholars of Islam should not allow adult girls to have a cell-phone. Why? When Shariah prohibited wine, what did it say? It said that the benefits are less than the harms. Similarly, when some scholars prohibited television, they based their argument on the fact that the benefits are less than the harms. In that way, cell-phone is also under the same category.

### **Instructions for the parents**

Parents should not allow their adult sons/daughters to have locks in their room and they should say that they can enter whenever they want to. Parents should keep a close eye on their children and they should not give them cell-phones at any cost.

### **Punishment of Adultery**

Shariah first ordered people to save themselves from sins and then stated that the punishment on the indulgence in sins would be very strict. Thus the punishment of adultery is in this world as well as the hereafter.

### **Worldly Punishment**

The first worldly punishment is known as *Qisaas*. What is *Qisaas*? It is that among the descendants of the culprit, one of his daughters would commit adultery. According to a hadith, the person who commits adultery, someone would commit adultery with one of his family members even if it is with the walls of his home.

### **Loss of respect**

The second worldly punishment is that although adultery involves two people but it is always the woman who suffers extreme humiliation among people. Her entire family's reputation is destroyed to the fullest.

### **Punishment in the afterlife**

The first punishment is that according to a hadith if an unveiled woman beautifies herself for attracting a *na-mehrem*, on the Day of Judgment, Allah SWT will not look at her with mercy or compassion.

The second punishment is that an adulterous woman will be thrown in fire in a state of nudity.

The third punishment is that according to a hadith, the sexual organ of the adulterous woman would emit such a bad smell that the other dwellers of hell would curse them.

The fourth punishment is that according to a hadith, the adulterous woman would be thrown in a cave. Doors of the cave will be closed. The cave will be filled with scorpions. These scorpions would stick to her body as if bees stick to honey; these scorpions would bite her and cause excruciating pain.

### **The Jihad of Women**

That is why the Shariah says that the woman who takes special care of her chastity is like a holy warrior. She will be granted the shadow of Allah's Throne. On the Day of Judgment, such a woman will be counted as a martyr.

The holy prophet SWS took the pledge of Jihad from men. On the other hand, he took the pledge of safeguarding chastity from women. Thus a man's Jihad is outside his home whereas a woman's Jihad is

insider her home. A man's Jihad is with the disbelieving enemies whereas a woman's Jihad is with *na-mehrem* relatives. The enemies shoot bullets at holy warriors. *Na-mehrem* men throw arrows of smiles and twinkling eyes. Enemies want to occupy the land of holy warriors. *Na-mehrem* men want to own the body of women. Enemies want to take advantage of the resources of warriors. *Na-mehrem* men want to have pleasure of the body of women. A holy warrior keeps the enemy away from his country's boundaries. Women keep *na-mehrem* men away from themselves. A holy warrior does not allow the enemy to enter his domain by even an inch. Women do not allow *na-mehrem* men to touch them even by a finger. A holy warrior does not trust his enemy at all. A woman does not trust a *na-mehrem* man at all. A holy warrior defends himself by staying in a trench. A woman defends herself by staying within the four walls of her home. A holy warrior thinks that if his enemy would see him, his life would be in danger. A woman thinks that if a *na-mehrem* man would see her, her respect would be in danger. The enemy loots the country of the holy warrior. The *na-mehrem* robs off the respect of a woman. The holy warrior gains the title of "ghazi" by remaining safe from the enemy. The woman gains the title of a "mujahida" by remaining safe from the *na-mehrem*. The holy warrior works while hiding himself from the enemy. A woman works while hiding herself from the *na-mehrem*. The holy warrior wears an armor to protect himself from the enemy. A woman wears a veil to protect herself from the eyes of *na-mehrem*. A holy warrior gains victory by showing perseverance in front of his enemy. A woman gains salvation by showing perseverance while dealing with *na-mehrem*. An enemy indulges in talks with the holy warrior as a clever strategy. *Na-mehrem* men indulge in talks with women as a clever strategy. Enemies send spies in the country of holy warriors. *Na-mehrem* men send messages to women. Enemies try to succeed by laying explosives underneath the path of holy warriors. A *na-mehrem* man tries to become an obstacle in a woman's religious path by giving her a gift.

### **A mistake of few moments leads to punishment of centuries**

Vulgarity is a trait by which a mistake of few minutes can lead to a punishment of centuries. Thus it is an extreme lack of wisdom. It should be observed that things that have an insignificant weight flow with the current of water but on the other hand mountains direct the flow of water. Thus a woman should be like a mountain of chastity.

The purity of mind, heart and soul can only be attained by excessive invocation (*zikr*) of Allah SWT. May Allah grant us the guidance to live a life full of chastity and purity – Ameen!

**THE REWARD OF HEAVEN ON  
THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH  
ON DEATH**

Human beings should recite the *kalma* in abundance. It is mentioned in a hadith that:

“You will die in a state similar to your life”

Whatever activity a man performs repeatedly during his life, his death will approach him with the same words on his tongue. If a man is granted *kalma* at his death, then it will lead to eternal salvation.

Hazrat Maaz RZA narrates that the holy prophet SWS said:

“The person whose last speech is la ilaha illal la will certainly enter heaven”.

Thus we should make it as a habit to recite this *kalma* again and again.

That is why it is said that when someone is on his death-bed, the people near him should recite the *kalma* in a loud voice so that he is reminded of it.

### **Prayer at the time of death**

“Allah! Forgive my sins, show mercy on me and make me meet the companions of above”.

### **The deeds that lead to the affirmation of faith on death**

#### 1. Lowering your gaze:

The person who practices self-restraint in this aspect and does not look intentionally at *na-mehrem* will be granted *kalma* on death.

It is mentioned in a hadith:

“Sight is a poisonous arrow among the arrows of Satan”.

“The person who stops looking at *na-mehrem* due to fear of Me, he will be granted a sweetness of faith that he will feel in his heart”.

Mullah Ali Qadri RHT said: “When the sweetness of faith enters the heart, it never leaves the heart”.

The signs of attainment of sweetness of faith:

Humans feel pleasure in worship.

Leaving sins become easy.

Bearing hardships to attain the pleasure of Allah becomes easy.

During all times (whether adversity or happiness), people are satisfied with the decree of Allah SWT.

2. Regular use of *miswak*

According to a hadith, the person who regularly uses *miswak* will be given a special treatment. What is that? It is that the angel of death would expel Satan from his company and tell the person to recite *kalma* before death. Allama Shami RHT said:

“One of the advantages of *miswak* is that at the time of death, a person remembers reciting the *kalma*”.

3. Gratitude (*shukr*) on faith

A Muslim should always be grateful and offer thanksgiving to Allah SWT on the fact that he was granted the bounty of faith in Islam. It is the promise of Allah SWT that, “If you will show gratitude on my bounties, I will increase those bounties”. Thus we should utter the following prayer day and night:

4. Charity

It is mentioned in a hadith: “Charity cools down the anger of Allah and protects man from bad death”.

Mulla Ali Qari RHT said: “Charity protects one against a coming adversity”.

5. Love for pious people

It is mentioned in a hadith, “These are those people in whose company the cursed one never sits”. According to Islamic scholars, the cursed one means he who is deprived of faith. Thus company of pious people is a key to heaven.

6. Love for Allah

The Quran says: “Allah will love His people and those people will love Allah”. The scholars state that the person who loves Allah in this world will not stand in the line of the enemies of Allah on the Day of Judgment.

7. Life of Chastity/Purity

We have already discussed this in detail in the previous chapter

8. Prayer after *azaan* (the call to prayer)

The following words should be recited after hearing the call to prayer:

According to Sahih Bukhari, the holy prophet SWS has promised to intercede on the Day of Judgment on behalf of the person who recites the above supplication. Mulla Ali Qari RHT says that it also means death on *kalma*.

9. The prayer for a good death:

10. Perseverance after guidance

We should recite the following prayer:

“O Allah! After granting us guidance, do not make our hearts crooked and bestow your mercy”

I would present to my readers few important anecdotes:

Khawaja Farid-ud-din Attar RHT had a shop of perfumes. One day an old man came and started looking at the perfumes with a deep interest. I asked him, “What are you finding?” He replied, “Your life is so much drowned in these perfumes. How will your life end? ”. On this Khawaja RHT said, “Just like your life will end”. On this, the old man lay down on the floor and said, “my life will end like this”. He recited the *kalma* and passed away instantly. This left a deep impact on the life of Khawaja Farid RHT.

Siri Saqti RHT said that he was once sitting somewhere when a man came and said, "Is there a place here where humans can die?" Siri RHT was shocked to hear this strange question; so he pointed towards the well. The man went to the well, performed ablution, offered his prayers and then lay down. When I went there, I saw that the man had already passed away.

Abu Zar-aa RHT was a religious elder. During his last moments, he was reading the hadith:

"The person whose last deed is la ilaha illal la....." When he had just reached this point, he died. How lucky he must have been.

### **Deeds that lead to bad death**

1. Riba/Interest/Usury

In the Quran, Allah SWT says that if you don't stop dealing with interest, "You should get ready for a war against Allah and His messenger". Thus people who deal with interest will always end up in a bad death.

2. Enmity against the friends of Allah

It is hadith-e-qudsi that Allah SWT says:

"I announce war against that person who becomes an enemy to my friend".

3. The third deed is considering Sunnah as unimportant or making fun of it.

4. Having bitter feelings for the companions of the holy prophet SWS

The holy prophet SWS clearly said that the person who has ill will for a companion of the Prophet SWS has ill will for the Prophet SWS.

I remember an anecdote when I was only 5 years old. I used to play in the streets. I was in primary school at that time. A friend of mine told me to come along with him to a house. When I went there, I saw a man was tightly tied with the ropes. The man's son was my friend. I asked him what was the matter? He replied that the man used to speak extremely dirty abusive language. When I went closer I saw that this was true. He seemed to be a mentally retarded person. When I grew up, I came to know that he was actually a Shia who used to talk badly about the companions of the holy prophet SWS. Thus Allah disgraced him in this life as well.

5. Pride and arrogance

The Quran says:

"Undoubtedly, Allah does not like the haughty and proud"

6. Hypocrisy

The person whose inner and outer selves are in contradiction with each other is called a hypocrite. Hypocrisy is a highway towards hell.

7. Persistence on a sin

If someone is so deeply involved in a sin that his mind and heart is occupied with its thoughts all the time, it can lead to a spiritual sickness due to which he would be deprived from *kalma* on his death. That is why it is said that one should not persist on any sin again and again. On the contrary, one should repent on it.

May Allah prevent us from doing the deeds that can lead to the negation of faith on death-Ameen!